

QUID NOVI

Journal des étudiant-e-s
en droit de l'université McGill

Published by the McGill Law
Students' Association

Volume 35, n° 19
1er avril 2014 / April 1st 2014

Édition spéciale – Special Issue

STUDENT-INITIATED SEMINARS

QUID NOVI

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McGill Law's Weekly Student Newspaper

Volume 35, n° 19
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WANT TO TALK ? TU VEUX T'EXPRIMER ?

Envoyez vos commentaires ou articles avant jeudi 17h à l'adresse : quid.law@mcgill.ca.

Toute contribution doit indiquer le nom de l'auteur, son année d'étude ainsi qu'un titre pour l'article. L'article ne sera publié qu'à la discrétion du comité de rédaction, qui basera sa décision sur la politique de rédaction.

Contributions should preferably be submitted as a .doc attachment (and not, for instance, a ".docx").

Quid Novi is published by the McGill Law Students' Association, a student society of McGill University. The content of this publication is the sole responsibility of the McGill Law Students' Association and does not necessarily represent the views of McGill University.

GAME OVER

Compagnes et compagnons de lutte, l'année s'achève et le Quid Novi, votre Quid, en est déjà à son dernier numéro pour l'année 2013-2014. S'achève ainsi une autre année pendant laquelle le Quid aura su vous distraire, vous instruire (ça arrive plus souvent qu'on ne le pense!), vous faire réfléchir et vous faire réagir.

Je ne saurais poursuivre mon propos sans remercier Jérémy, Pietro, et toute la formidable équipe de rédacteurs et éditeurs du Quid pour leur excellent travail cette année. If I was running for LSA President or VP Clubs, I'd pledge to create a monthly 'Hug a Quid Volunteer Day'. #justsaying

Merci aussi à tous ceux qui ont contribué, de par leurs idées ou leurs textes, à la réalisation des 19 numéros du 35^e volume du Quid. Merci à ceux qui l'ont lu. Merci à ceux qui ne l'ont pas (encore) lu : tous les numéros sont disponibles en ligne, profitez-en !

Special thanks to Patrycja Nowakowska, Lillian Boctor and Garrett Zehr for their initiative and collaboration in the preparation of this special issue on Student-Initiated Seminars.

One final thought: Most of my 1L colleagues must have received and read the letters we had written to our future selves back in early September, at the end of our week "Before the Law". Aside from the numerous naive promises he'd managed to fit into one page (he even apologized for it: « If this doesn't make sense, pardonne-moi. Je suis fatigué. »), my old self had asked me not to forget the 10 imprescriptible rights of the reader. Pour ceux qu'on n'a jamais forcé à lire *Comme un roman* de Daniel

Pennac, ces droits sont les suivants :

1. Le droit de ne pas lire.
2. Le droit de sauter des pages.
3. Le droit de ne pas finir un livre.
4. Le droit de relire.
5. Le droit de lire n'importe quoi.
6. Le droit au *bovarysme*.
7. Le droit de lire n'importe où.
8. Le droit de grappiller.
9. Le droit de lire à haute voix.
10. Le droit de nous taire.

Truth be told, I might have exercised the rights #2, #10, and particularly #1 in an excessive and unreasonable manner. Some of you will relate to this, I'm sure. There's still some time to remediate this problem. Exam will go great. And summer will be even greater.

It was an amazing year. We've all learned a lot about ourselves, and maybe also about the law. Maybe. :)

Au nom de toute l'équipe,

Buona fortuna !

Et à l'année prochaine !

PS : We have no time to solve a sudoku, and neither do you. The overhears are back. You're welcome.

NANCY
CZEMMEL

EVALUATE YOUR COURSES!

Monday, March 24 to Tuesday, April 29, 2014

STUDENTS...

Let your voices be heard! Your feedback is critical in helping us improve teaching and learning at McGill.

Want to have an impact? You can:

- help instructors improve future course offerings,
- inform decision-makers for merit, promotion and tenure, and teaching awards,
- help reach response thresholds so that results may be disseminated to students.

Easy to complete:

- Takes only 5-10 minutes
- The system is open 24/7
- Available from March 24 to April 29, 2014

Access:

1. Log in to your Minerva account (https://horizon.mcgill.ca/pban1/twbkwbis.P_WWWLogin?ret_code=f)
2. A pop-up window will direct you to the course evaluations

3. Alternate way to access the course evaluations:

- a. Select Student Menu
- b. Click on Mercury Online Course Evaluation Menu
- c. Then on Submit your course evaluations
- d. Click on the Course link

Questions/comments: contact Minerva Help Line: <http://knowledgebase.mcgill.ca/article.asp?article=2278&p=4>

Thank you for participating in this important process!

Olivier Dyens
Deputy Provost (Student Life and Learning)

LICM

SUMMER AT THE CLINIC

Spending the summer in Montreal? Hoping to put your legal skills to practical use? La Clinique d'information juridique à McGill est à la recherche de bénévoles!

The Legal Information Clinic at McGill is a non-profit, student-run, bilingual and free legal information service. Notre mandat est de fournir de l'information juridique et d'offrir des références à la communauté de McGill ainsi qu'aux populations marginalisées du Québec.

We are seeking volunteers who have completed their first year of law by the end of this semester. The commitment will be 2-3

hours per week and training will be provided. The Clinic welcomes new volunteers and encourages returning volunteers to continue their involvement.

En faisant du bénévolat à la Clinique, vous aurez une excellente occasion de mettre en pratique ce que vous avez appris dans vos cours cette année. Not only will you get to work directly with clients who have real legal questions, but you will also have the opportunity to develop your legal research skills and explore new areas of the law.

Volunteering at the Legal Information Clinic at McGill can also be

great preparation for those interested in the Student Advocacy Program, a proud part of the Legal Information Clinic at McGill. Ce service offre aux étudiants impliqués dans des processus disciplinaires, de grief ou d'appel, des conseils gratuits et confidentiels ainsi qu'une représentation par un représentant étudiant. L'appel aux candidatures pour les postes de représentants-étudiants adjoints se fait pendant l'automne.

Une séance de formation obligatoire pour la session d'été aura lieu en mai (détails TBA). Pour de plus amples renseignements ou pour vous ajouter à la liste de distribution, please e-mail hr.licm@mail.mcgill.ca. Please feel free to get in touch whether you are interested in volunteering this summer or in the fall.

**FEMINIST
COLLECTIVE**

THE FEMINIST COLLECTIVE OF MCGILL LAW BILAN 2013-2014 : DANS LA FACULTÉ, DANS LA COMMUNAUTÉ DE MONTRÉAL, DANS LES JOURNAUX!

It's not that we never thought a feminist collective at McGill Law could be this successful. It's just that as feminists and activists, perhaps a small part of us always feels we have to be ready for rejection and criticism. How nice it is find out that for the most part, in all our activities this year, we only needed to deal with the best! It turns out that our faculty is not just "ready" for feminism - it was clamouring for it.

À la Faculté

Our activities at the Faculty of Law focused on educating our community on feminism and de-stigmatizing the f-word, creating opportunities for women to gain skills and training, and creating a supportive community for feminists at the Faculty.

Notre série d'ateliers a abordé deux sujets importants: la négociation et l'équité salariale, à l'automne, et le harcèlement sexuel et psychologique au travail, en hiver. Les étudiantEs qui ont assisté à l'atelier d'automne ont eu l'occasion de participer à une simulation de négociation salariale avec la sociologue et professeure Ruth Husing de la Faculté de gestion Desautels à McGill. En hiver, nos participantEs ont bien profité de l'expertise de l'animatrice de l'atelier, un membre de l'équipe du Groupe d'aide et d'information sur le harcèlement sexuel au travail de Montréal (GAIHST). Nous remercions encore une fois le soutien financier de l'Association des étudiantEs en droit pour ces deux évènements, occasions d'apprentissage pour nos féministes à la Faculté.

To coincide with March 8, International Women's Day, March 10-14 was the (first ever?) Feminist Week at the faculty. It included our winter workshop on sexual and psychological harassment in the workplace, a movie screening of the animated film *Persepolis*, a potluck, and an ongoing interactive "feminist promise" activity in the atrium where students had the opportunity to make a promise to do a concrete action in their lives to fight the oppression of women.

On a continué la Semaine féministe pendant cinq jours de plus afin de présenter un de nos grands succès de l'année, notre campagne photo "Je suis féministe", durant la semaine du 17 au 21 mars. La campagne a mis en avant environ une soixantaine d'étudiantEs, professeurEs, et employéEs de la Faculté de droit de McGill, chacunE proclamant son identification comme féministe en partageant un autre aspect de son identité, de sa personnalité ou de ses activités. En plus, notre Tumblr a reçu des milliers de visites, résultant en des demandes d'information du Huffington Post Canada et de Rabble.ca! Le Huffington Post a récemment publié un article sur la campagne, la décrivant comme "Pretty Damn Cool" (voir lien ci-dessous) et mettant de l'avant les commentaires d'une de nos organisatrices, Aishah Nofal. Rabble, par contre, s'intéressait à inclure notre campagne dans ses "Boîtes d'outils pour activistes" comme exemple du cybermilitantisme (digital activism). Et si vous n'avez pas eu l'occasion de participer à la campagne de cette année, ne vous inquiétez pas - la campagne risque de se présenter pour un deuxième tour l'année prochaine!

Same goes for the Feminist Speedmeet, which was well-attended and well-organized by members of the Collective. As it turns out, many Montreal lawyers are feminists! And many were extremely pleased to be able to be part of a feminist activity at the McGill Faculty of Law and impressed that we now had this space. We thank everyone who participated, with special thanks to the Career Development Office for their financial support!

Le numéro spécial du *Quid Novi* sur le consentement a aussi profité du leadership du Collectif féministe, qui s'est organisé pour que les étudiantEs puissent partager leurs expériences sur le consentement de façon anonyme, en se servant d'un compte email créé exceptionnellement pour ces fins. Nous sommes très fierEs et inspiréEs par celles et ceux qui ont partagé leurs histoires, nous donnant des idées de ce que signifie le mot consentement, ce qu'il ne signifie pas, et comment notre comportement peut avoir de différents impacts sur les autres. et nous remercions encore une fois le *Quid Novi* pour leur soutien

pour ce projet!

On February 14, we highlighted, in collaboration with the Aboriginal Law Students' Association, the day of awareness for missing and murdered Aboriginal women in Canada with a poster exhibition in the atrium.

Lastly, but certainly not least, the Feminist Collective became a site for ongoing, safe, supportive dialogue about feminism and creative collaboration among our members - probably our most valuable success of all.

Outside the Faculty

One of our goals as a collective was to take our energy and resources outside the Faculty. Our fall research project involved supporting the Centre for Gender Advocacy by doing research on trans* rights in Canada and in the world, specifically with respect to legal requirements for changing one's gender marker on official [Liens](#) documents. We were super inspired by the work of this tiny but tireless community organization and we hope to do similar collaborations next year.

Le Collectif féministe a pris l'initiative, avec d'autres groupes étudiants de McGill, en confrontant l'administration de McGill après leur réponse problématique à l'accusation de trois étudiants de McGill d'aggression sexuelle. Notre lettre ouverte au Deputy Provost of Student Life and Learning, prof. Ollivier Dyens, a été bien reçue et nous avons eu l'occasion de rencontrer le prof. Dyens à l'automne afin de discuter de nos inquiétudes. Durant la session d'hiver, une coalition de groupes étudiants à McGill a rédigé une proposition de politique sur les agressions sexuelles, dont le Collectif féministe est un fier signataire et qui a fait l'objet d'un article du Montreal Gazette le 26 mars. Maintenant que McGill a embauché une coordonnatrice dont le mandat sera de sensibiliser la communauté mcgilloise sur les agressions sexuelles et de répondre aux incidents, nous avons hâte de continuer de faire partie des solutions du problème systémique des agressions sexuelles et du harcèlement sexuel dans notre communauté.

We are privileged to have \$190 in funds left from our coffee-house fundraiser in September, which we have chosen to donate to the Loretta Saunders scholarship fund. This fund will help an indigenous woman study in Atlantic Canada and we thank the LSA as well for generously agreeing to match the funds raised by students!

Lessons Learned

Such a full and successful year has taught us at least one thing very clearly: many people in our faculty and in our community wanted an explicit place for feminism, and now we have it. We've learned that with support for each other and dedication, we can continue to expand that space and have concrete impacts on how women are treated, valued, and viewed both in our faculty and in our society.

How will you be part of feminism? Our photo campaign shows us that not only are feminists diverse, but there is a huge diversity of ways that we can concretely "be" feminists. As always, we want new people to join us and bring with them their different thoughts on feminism and being feminist. There is much work to be done still, of course, on ending the oppression of women. But now that we have seen the massive support we have and the inspiring work of our feminists, we are more motivated than ever to do it.

Article du Huffington Post Canada, le 24 mars 2014: http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/2014/03/24/mcgill-university-feminist-campaign_n_5021166.html

Article du Montreal Gazette, le 26 mars 2014: <http://www.montrealgazette.com/news/McGill+students+seek+formal+sexual+assault+policy/9665304/story.html>

Loretta Saunders scholarship fundraiser: <http://www.thecanadian-daily.ca/please-help/>

1L PRESIDENTS FINAL REPORT

The year is quickly coming to an end, examinations are approaching, and it is time for us to wrap up our activities as 1L presidents! As part of our role, the LSA constitution mandates that we detail some of the activities we have undertaken throughout the year. Here are some highlights of what we've done:

Weekly announcements and creation of an e-mail address

Throughout the year, we have made announcements of weekly highlights during Legal Methodology classes, other individual classes, and sporadically through the 1L President e-mail address. The address is 1loutsidethelawlibrary@gmail.com. We also created it in order that students without Facebook can contact us.

Participation in the LSA Council Meetings

Nous avons participé aux nombreux débats sur le référendum, la réforme de la Constitution, le budget et de nombreuses autres motions tout au long de l'année. Nous avons porté de l'avant les préoccupations des 1L sur le manque d'espace commun l'année prochaine qui résultera des travaux du OCDH. Nous avons emmené l'idée de créer un café étudiant ou de s'assurer qu'il y ait moyen d'avoir du café durant l'année. Nous avons été les promoteurs d'un projet de décoration de la faculté (afficher des nouveaux portraits plus diversifiés).

Town Hall

We organized a town-hall meeting for 1Ls in February, as specified in the LSA Constitution. Some items discussed at the meeting were the remaining 1L budget at the time, the LSA's constitutional changes, the planned renovations of Old Chancellor Day Hall, and a reminder about some of the health and well-being services offered at McGill. All participants also received a healthy share of pizza and other junk food!

Language Partner Program

One of our objectives throughout the year was to make efforts to bring the Anglophone and Francophone communities in 1L (and the faculty as a whole) closer together. The original idea for the program was to pair Anglophone and Francophone students to facilitate exchange and language practice during specified events. We eventually found that a less formal approach to the effort was more attractive to

students, but still organized 3 events focusing on language exchange. We hope that in future years class presidents and the LSA can continue these efforts to encourage integration between linguistic groups in the Faculty.

Support Student-initiated Projets

Nous étions disponibles pour supporter les différentes initiatives étudiantes des 1L. Par exemple, nous avons permis l'activité organisée par Talia, Max et Tamim de dialogue sur la question Palestine/Israël.

End-of-Winter-Exams Celebration

Nous avons organisé une fête dans la salle de réception du Thomson House suite à la première session d'examen. Cela impliqua une organisation logistique (billets, musique, décoration), financière et sécuritaire. Nous avons engagé une photographe amateur pour capturer des images de la soirée, qui ont été compilés dans un album disponible sur Facebook. Plus de 120 participants se sont présentés et nous estimons que la soirée a généralement été une réussite.

Med-Law Party

Upon request by our counterparts in the Faculty of Medicine, we helped organize a party for medical, dental and law students at Le Gymnase. While originally intended to be a 1L/Med-1 event, the party was eventually opened up to all participants. We estimate that around 120 students and guests attended and we had a successful experience planning the event in cooperation with medicine.

End-of-the-year Celebration

Nous planifions organiser des activités pour célébrer l'accomplissement de notre première année le weekend du 26 et 27 avril 2014. Il y aura fort probablement des activités sociales/sportives organisées durant la journée, ainsi qu'un repas le soir et une tournée des appartements des étudiants/bars. Cela est à voir. Nous sommes ouverts à toutes suggestions.

Projet d'art/Murale

Il reste au budget environ 400-500\$ que nous prévoyons utiliser pour financer l'accomplissement d'une murale ou de peintures afin de décorer les murs de la faculté. Nous souhaitons que les œuvres représentent avantage la diversité qui caractérise le corps étudiant actuel (différentes origines

ethniques, religieuses, sexuelles, les autochtones, les femmes, etc.) Nous sommes actuellement en discussion avec la Faculté pour discuter de la faisabilité du projet (emplacement, coûts, autorisations). Nous avons choisi un artiste professionnel de street art qui a travaillé en justice réparatrice avec des jeunes délinquants en Colombie-Britannique notamment. Ce projet continuera malgré nos fonctions qui prendront fin d'ici peu et la participation des étudiants sera essentielle à la réalisation de celui-ci (à différentes étapes de la réalisation: brainstorming, feedback, etc.)

Nous remercions tous les étudiants de première année pour nous avoir fait confiance durant cette année. Nous sommes très heureux de la participation des 1L et nous espérons que

Lessons Learned

Such a full and successful year has taught us a lot. We are grateful to our partners and supporters for their continued support. We are also grateful to our students for their hard work and dedication. We are looking forward to the future and the opportunities it holds for us.

vous êtes satisfaits de notre travail.

Nous vous tiendrons au courant pour les célébrations de fin d'année.

Bon courage pour le dernier mois, un été bien mérité est à nos portes!

Greg Elder et Camille Gagné-Raynauld,
Co-Presidents of the 2013-2014 1L Cohort

**NATIONAL
SELF-
REPRESENTED
LITIGANTS
PROJECT**

WERE YOU A SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANT?

Did you represent yourself in a legal dispute before you started law school? If so, we want to hear from you!

The National Self-Represented Litigants Project <<http://representingyourselfcanada.com>> is working to understand why and how people come to court without lawyers. We want to use this knowledge to make the legal profession and the justice system work more effectively for everyone.

As a law student, what do you know now that you wish you had known when you were a self-represented litigant? (We're interested less in legal doctrine than in court procedure and "culture," and what it's like to be self-represented.)

Please reply to representingyourself@gmail.com. Thank you!

2L PRESIDENTS FINAL REPORT

Dear 2Ls,

Bien que ce soit difficile à croire, notre deuxième année tire à sa fin. Ce fut un plaisir de vous représenter en tant que Présidents de deuxième année. Nous tenons à vous remercier pour votre enthousiasme tout au long de l'année. Tous les accomplissements que nous avons partagés avec vous n'ont été possibles qu'en raison de votre engagement constant.

At LSA Council, we were committed to representing your interests at the Faculty. Some of the big issues dealt with this year included preferential voting, the capital expenditures fund, and accessibility at LSA events. We thoroughly enjoyed collaborating with this year's LSA Executive and Council, who worked tirelessly to further students' interests, and improve life at the Faculty. We hope that many of the decisions made will have a lasting, positive impact for years to come.

En ce qui concerne les activités, nous avons fait de notre mieux afin de choisir des activités qui seraient susceptibles d'intéresser le plus d'étudiant-e-s possibles, qu'elles soient culturelles (visite d'un musée), sociales (party d'hiver au McKibbins, soirée pré-examens au Sharx) ou académiques (visite de la Cour du Québec).

The visit to Redpath Museum was the first event of the year. Due to a scheduling conflict, many students were not able to attend. Given students' differing schedules in second year, the timing of the events ended up being a significant factor in student turnout. We made this issue a primary consideration in the planning of all the other events.

En novembre, nous avons organisé une visite à la Cour du Québec. Nous étions environ 15 étudiants et nous avons eu la chance de passer l'avant-midi avec le juge Patrick Healy. Nous avons commencé avec une conversation dans son bureau et puis nous avons assisté à ses audiences. M. le juge Healy enseigne le droit criminel à la Faculté et nous avons beaucoup profité de sa perspicacité concernant les matières devant lui ce jour-là. Ayant maintenant fait des visites à la Cour d'Appel (1L) et la Cour du Québec (2L), ça pourrait être intéressant pour les Présidents de classe de l'année prochaine de trouver une autre institution juridique que nos collègues pourraient visiter.

De retour des vacances en janvier, on a fêté l'hiver avec une célébration pour les étudiants en 2L au McKibbins Irish Pub. Environ 70 personnes ont pu assister et la nuit s'est terminée avec de la danse jusqu'aux petites heures du matin.

While the Winter Party was a success in many regards, its plan-

ning and implementation lacked in one capacity that we'd like to highlight, for the benefit of future Class Presidents, and others organizing events at the Faculty. In weighing the various criteria for what we wanted in a venue, we did not give accessibility adequate consideration. As a result, we chose a venue that was inaccessible to some students, and by extension undermined the very reason for hosting the party, which was to include all students in our year.

In the time since the party, we have set out to learn more about the approach we took, and how we could have done better. This culminated in the presentation of a motion at LSA Council, with input from some members of the student body, and the LSA Executive. This motion reaffirmed the LSA's commitment to planning and hosting accessible events, and has provided mechanisms for better consultation prior to event planning. More than any other endeavour this year, we hope that our learning experience on this issue will benefit future years at the Faculty.

La semaine dernière, nous avons organisé une soirée pré-examens de quilles et billards au Sharx, juste après Coffeehouse afin d'encourager les étudiants à continuer à fêter ensemble. Ayant appris de notre expérience au McKibbins, nous nous sommes assuré d'avance que le bar choisi soit accessible à tous.

In terms of next steps, we believe it would be great for future Class Presidents to try to engage in projects that will have a long-lasting impact on the Faculty. Along with the 1L Presidents, Camille and Greg, we have been in discussions to commission an art project reflecting the Faculty's diversity. This project is still in its infancy, and will only continue once we have consulted with our fellow students on the vision of the end product. But, due to the nature and complexity of the project, the work will no doubt carry on into next year. It would be best for similar future endeavours to be carried out at an earlier stage in the year due to the number of considerations that must be taken into account with such projects.

Alors que le semestre tire à sa fin, nous vous souhaitons bonne chance pour vos examens. Nous sommes maintenant à mi-chemin de nos études en droit, et le meilleur reste sûrement à venir ! Nous espérons que vous passerez toutes et tous un été agréable et relaxant !

Sincerely,
Behzad and Tim

PATRYCJA
NOWAKOWSKA

WE, THE STUDENTS... INITIATE: REFLECTING ON OUR STUDENT LED SEMINAR ON CYBERLAW

Our generation has been the fortunate witness of a revolution in media technology – the Internet has exploded and offered a very important platform for all of us who now find ourselves within its limitless orbit: the platform of initiation and initiative. Never has so much agency been placed in the hands of private individuals, never has a medium offered so much voice and agency to any, and every, Internet user. For me, the Internet means innovation coupled with unparalleled interactivity – both reinforcing each other.

It isn't surprising that law has a troublesome relationship with the Internet. Law is foremost interested in definitions, to 'define' – a term that by its very nature means "to fix the boundaries" a term interested in setting limits. How then can the entity without limits correspond to one that makes limitations its very start-point? It comes as no surprise that many legal scholars would deny that there is, or ever could be, such a thing as "Internet Law". And yet...

I would argue that the two are not so different after all.

The legal paradigm integrates cognitive and normative assumptions informing interpretations of state and society. The Internet does much of the same except it does not limit itself to a delineated state, but to an infinite (cyber)space. Both law and Internet concern themselves with society and its varying levels of interactions, as well as, the outcomes of such intercourses: cultural, moral, artistic, commercial, political, etc. Both law and Internet can be viewed as gestalts of human activity and communication, creating special vernaculars in a reflexive effort to define their evolving identities. Both encompass communities which operate within their respective frameworks while contemplating and disciplining their natures and futures. To expand the parallels, they are both replete with codes, sources, applications, binaries, norms, customs, volumes of information – all in a (paradoxical) fixed state of flux.

The above paragraph paraphrases what I wrote in a supervised summer essay – my own, individual attempt at crafting a piece of Internet Law curriculum. The semester following that summer, I discovered that I was not alone in my urge to bring a little technology consciousness to our McGill law faculty. Upon joining forces with Paul, Alain, Laura and Deep, our individual convictions and all the unique backgrounds and strengths that each had to offer, built a momentum – a momentum that took on collective initiative. Each brought something to the table:

technological expertise, passion for civil liberties, intellectual curiosity, organizational brilliance, and an interest in pedagogical experimentation. With joined forces, we also sought out professional support and this note would not be complete without a resounding statement of gratitude owed to Honorable Justice Carol Cohen, Me. Sunny Handa and Me. Allen Mendelsohn, for their letters of support that surely legitimized our lobby. And so with the help of our law faculty's open mind and Prof. Lametti's offer to supervise, the Student Initiated Seminar on Cyberlaw was born.

The next summer was filled with tireless efforts to research relevant topics, bring together a syllabus, organize guest speakers, and explore the parameters of innovative pedagogy. The work was rigorous and my hat has to be tipped to all our professors and practitioner-instructors: building a course is heavy duty work and you probably get a lot less credit than you're owed.

But the fruit was sweet! We weren't sure how other students would react to the requirement of each facilitating a seminar session, complete with a jointly planned activity, or how our peers would react to the requirement of a laptop-free seminar participation (yes, we banned them from the seminar... it was a risk!). In the end my credit situation prevented me from being a registered student in the seminar but I was granted observer and facilitator status. It was during one seminar session where a student group organized an activity involving anonymity, cyber-terrorism, regulation and surveillance done in a murder mystery game theory model (to complex for me to try and explain), that the thrill overcame me. I felt myself tearing up (ugh...so corny!). This is what creating something with others and watching it grow on its own into something bigger we ever anticipated feels like. I am not a parent, but I imagine the pleasure must be something along these same sentimental lines: this seminar was our baby. We were innovating and interacting, taking in information wrapped up in entertainment, living in analog what we have gotten accustomed to experience digitally. In the end, I honestly doubt anyone missed their bloody laptops; joined initiative was just as informative and much more fun.

Thank you, Dean Ellis, and thank you, McGill Faculty of Law, thank you supporters, but most of all, thank you all participants and organizers – I hope this seminar was as memorable and precious for you as it had been for me. For all those of you thinking about such endeavors: it is worth every minute and every bead of sweat. Take charge of your education – get up and initiate!

OLIVIER
JARDA

CRITICAL RACE THEORY: QUESTIONING A COLOURLESS APPROACH TO LEGAL EDUCATION

As a law student, it is tempting to look to course offerings and readings to get an idea of what matters to the various stakeholders of our institution. By using this take-the-berries-and-leave-the-shrubbery approach, I've distilled certain key legal terms, whose hierarchy I implore you to take with a grain of salt. The constitution and the rule of law seem to be of importance. So are contract, property, and civil responsibility. On the fringes lie other – rather important – social and historical constructs such as race, gender, and sexual orientation, without which legal analysis often fails to capture what the law has really done, does, and will do. In the current structure of our legal education, especially in "substantive" law courses, these "peripherals" tend to be mentioned only in passing, or are avoided altogether.

I enrolled in the Critical Race Theory (CRT) student-led seminar to study some of that periphery. I am grateful to have been given the opportunity to participate in and to create a space on campus for legal analysis that emphasizes the impact of race as a legal concept (among other things), the legal history of racism and racialized peoples, and the importance of intersectional analysis in understanding the impacts of law on society. Coined by Kimberlé Crenshaw, intersectionality is the study of intersections between different disenfranchised groups. It advances the idea that racism, sexism, homophobia, ableism, etc. work in tandem in creating and maintaining interactive systems of oppression, a phenomenon that must be examined holistically. CRT's transdisciplinary approach prioritizes experiential knowledge, and challenges dominant ideology with a view toward social justice. It has provided me with important legal tools and arguments that I take with me everywhere. For what would I do with only colour-blind arguments in a world whose present and history are so heavily informed by race, and cannot be properly explained without it?

With these lenses, our class has revisited cases and laws that we had already analyzed in Property, Contracts, Torts, Constitutional Law, Administrative Processes, etc. This second reading has helped me gain a better understanding of the processes of law at work. The context of systemic discrimination

is invaluable, as it is clear that racial differentiation in law and in its application has the power to affect racialized individuals' behaviours, a fact that the judiciary and traditional legal studies tend to overlook or downplay. Highlights of this year included guest lectures and talks from lawyers, academics, and activists, as well as a victim of double punishment. We also had the opportunity to interact with the CRT class from the Education department.

In addition, we have taken a critical look at the Faculty's racial climate, which exhibits some positive elements but falls short in important areas. Are people of colour adequately represented in the student body, administration, and faculty? Does the curriculum reflect the historical and contemporary experiences of people of colour? Are there programs that support recruitment, retention, and graduation of students of colour? Does the Faculty's mission reinforce its commitment to pluralism? CRT also helps to reimagine legal sites of education, not just through curricular reform, but also through the inclusion of historically disadvantaged actors in a non-hostile environment.

This is CRT's third year as a student-led seminar. Thanks to the former student educators, and to the current educators, Alyssa Clutterbuck and Lillian Boctor, for making this class possible. We are richer for it.

DELANEY
GREIG,
JASON DAVIDSON
& CAROLINE
BELAIR

5 REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD TAKE THE MINING LAW SEMINAR NEXT YEAR

We are excited to announce a brand new student-initiated seminar on offer next year in Mining Law! For several months already, we the organizers have had our minds spinning with creative and practical learning tools and ideas for guest speakers. Afin de partager notre enthousiasme avec vous, nous vous proposons cinq raisons pour lesquelles vous devriez vous inscrire au séminaire :

1. Because it promises to be interesting.

Just like a pile of ore, mining law may look plain and dull on the surface, but it's sure to contain some gems! Duty to consult, property law, municipal law, conflict mediation, aboriginal and treaty rights, human rights, environmental law, and corporate law – it's all there and more!

2. Parce que le droit minier est un sujet important.

La Bourse de Toronto comprend à elle seule 56% des compagnies minières à l'échelle mondiale. Le développement des ressources naturelles entraîne la richesse pour certains, mais celui-ci est accompagné de conséquences importantes pour les communautés locales, la protection de l'environnement, et les droits des communautés Autochtones. La réalisation de projets miniers suscite donc des questions juridiques complexes dans des domaines de droit variés, tels le droit des affaires, le droit de l'environnement, et le droit administratif.

3. Because you get to be a negotiator.

Contrary to what you might expect after an evening of watching legal dramas, many areas of law involve less time in court and more time in complex, multiparty negotiations. Yet there are few opportunities to build negotiation skills in law school. As part of the seminar, we are planning to conduct negotiation training and carry out a moot negotiation centered on a mining project.

Technological

4. Parce que c'est l'occasion d'élargir votre réseau. Nous préparerons une liste d'invités experts dans le domaine minier, incluant des avocats, des ingénieurs et des leaders autochtones. Vous aurez aussi la chance d'apprendre à connaître d'autres étudiants qui s'intéressent aux mêmes sujets que vous!

5. Because Student Initiated Seminars "rock".

The form and direction of the seminar are in your hands! While the student coordinators will work over the summer to prepare the syllabus, ultimately what we do in class is up to seminar participants. The pass or fail basis will also allow you to take risks with your writing and oral presentations that you might not feel comfortable taking in other classes.

Whether you're inspired by what you're hearing about this year's seminars, keen to gain practical skills, "ore" just looking for something a little different from the standard McGill fare, the Mining Law Seminar promises (in a non-contractual sort of way) to be a great experience!

Si vous avez des questions, si vous souhaitez obtenir plus d'information, ou si vous avez des idées pour ce projet, n'hésitez pas à nous contacter : delaney.greig@mail.mcgill.ca, jason.davidson@mail.mcgill.ca, caroline.belair@mail.mcgill.ca! We will be working hard to prepare material over the summer and would love to hear your thoughts!

The more I researched partnerships what I wanted a super brief summer project my own, involved others or perhaps a piece of interest. One connection. The summer following last summer, I discovered that I was not alone in my urge to create. Little did I know that I would be part of a group of 10 students planning to go with professor, Laura and Greg, our mining connections and all the unique backgrounds and interests each had to offer, to the mountain – a mountain that was on collective breathe. Each brought something to the table.

THOUGHTS AND REFLECTIONS ON THE RESTORATIVE JUSTICE SEMINAR

[The seminar] has been a very positive learning experience for me. The student-led format fostered experiential learning that allowed students to really learn by doing. Restorative justice principles were put into practice by creating a 'community' for ourselves (e.g. class guidelines, sharing circles, and meaningful discussions). This sense of community, unlike traditional courses (where the professor is the expert and students are the receivers of this expertise) grounded us in principles of equality and dignity; we all had something to offer (knowledge) and we all learned from each other. This format also challenges potential power dynamics between professors and students. I thank the student instructors for creating such a community and for providing the opportunity to learn about restorative justice from such grounded perspectives. Thank you.

Emma Larson-Ure (Master of Social Work student)

The Student-Initiated Seminar on Restorative Justice was fascinating and challenging in ways that were new to me. The class included experiential learning, self-reflection, group problem-solving, and (my favourite) circle processes. The structure fostered rigorous and meaningful discussion about criminal law, the prison system, and restorative/transformative justice. I honed my public speaking skills, had my mind blown a couple times, and built community within the faculty. If you haven't taken one of these courses yet, do so before you graduate!

Leah Gardner (2nd Year Law Student)

As it was my first experience in participating in a Student-Initiated Seminar I was impressed by the professionalism of the student instructors of the Restorative Justice Seminar. Specifically, they were well prepared not only in presenting the weekly topics but also in confronting all possible questions that students put forward. Having said that, they gained the students' respect and all courses were conducted in an orderly manner. Overall, it was an excellent learning experience which I highly recommend and I feel that such practices should continue in the future.

Eleni Sofouli (Master of Social Work Student)

I was so excited when I got the email inviting social work students to take this student-initiated law seminar on restorative justice. At the same time I was a little nervous, having never taken a law class before and not knowing how the two disciplines would mesh in the classroom. All my expectations were surpassed! The seminar has been consistently rewarding, informative, and thought provoking. I have nothing but respect

for the student organizers who clearly spent a great deal of time and effort to put this course together. The highlights for me were definitely the prison visit, the guest speakers, and the general format of the course, which allowed every student time and space for reflection but without any pressure whatsoever. Thank you for this opportunity and please offer more options like this, McGill.

Danielle Fong, Master of Social Work student

The Student-led Seminar format facilitated the creation of an intimate and enriching environment for reflection and conversation. In Restorative Justice, we had the privilege of benefiting from a number of guest speakers and experiential learning opportunities. My views on criminality and the criminal justice system have evolved considerably over the course of the semester. Compared to traditional lecture-based courses, I found that the format facilitated my active engagement with the material on a weekly basis.

Tyler Goettl, 3L

PROBLEMATIZING THE PENAL SYSTEM AND OTHER REFLECTIONS FROM THE STUDENT-INITIATED SEMINAR ON RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

Martha Chertkow (2nd Year Law Student)

The Student-Initiated Seminar on Restorative Justice has been one of the most educational, challenging, and valuable courses of my lifetime.

First, the combination of the unique design of the physical space, the integration of experiential learning, and the fostering of genuine class discussion, was something that I have never experienced before in a classroom setting and is something that I will cherish for the rest of my life. As the class took place in a circle format, special effort was made to ensure that everyone felt safe and equal in sharing their thoughts. Domination of conversation was non-existent, and people did not speak to hear their own voices, but to help push ideas further, deconstruct concepts, and learn.

Second, the interdisciplinary format of the class was a valuable asset that also made this seminar outstanding. Sitting side-by-side with peers from the Faculty of Social Work was a great gift, as the cross-fertilization of knowledge and sharing of new

perspectives made for an incredibly rich learning experience. Not only did we benefit from their presence, but the seminar was also visited on a regular basis by practitioners in restorative justice who grounded our learning. From a survivor of sexual assault sharing with us her experience of victim-offender mediation to a facilitator of Circles of Support and Accountability explaining how their program supports the reintegration of sexual offenders, their stories allowed us to truly visualize and materialize the concepts that we had discussed in class.

Finally, this class allowed me to develop a critical lens from which to deconstruct the dominant paradigm of the penal system and truly appreciate its human impact. So much of our legal education is based on an unquestioning acceptance of the penal system, and that punishment is what is required for the 'Rule of Law'. The Restorative Justice Seminar helped me break down this myth, from learning about Aboriginal traditions that see crime not as an extension of a 'bad person', but as a symptom of a harm or wound that needs to be addressed, to hearing first hand from victims what they personally needed to heal, namely that the perpetrator understand the harm that they caused and not just be locked up in a cell. The myth of the effectiveness of the penal system was most challenged for me during a field trip with the RJ Seminar in which I had the opportunity to take part in a 'sharing circle' at the Federal Training Centre, a medium security prison in Laval.

Sitting for three hours side-by-side with eight to ten sexual offenders, I came to understand the true failures of our penal system, as well as the possibilities for meaningful change. The offenders were all incarcerated from thirty years to life and most had gone through several 'restorative justice' programs. As the night progressed I learned of how almost all had been victims of sexual violence themselves, they had grown up rolling joints for their parents since the age of six, suffered mental disorders, or had a collection of underlying and long-unaddressed mental and social conditions. When they got to prison, all of this initially lay unaddressed, they didn't care, they blamed someone else and minimized their crime, refusing moral accountability. It was only when they participated in an RJ process, whether victim-offender mediation, or family group conferences, that they began to understand their crime, and its impact and to accept moral accountability. Some spent 20 years, were released and re-offended, until a space and opportunity to participate in an RJ program came up. As one detainee said, "it was only when I met face-to-face with someone who I had harmed, and saw their pain, and they shared with me how it changed their lives- whether not being able to open the windows in summer, or walk alone at night, or not have kids, that I finally understood my actions and could take accountability for them." This doesn't happen in courtrooms.

Our entire penal system is oriented towards punishment and minimal space is offered or valued for these types of restora-

tive justice activities. There is no social worker at the Federal Training Centre at Laval. There are two psychologists but they are hired by Correctional Services Canada and report directly to prisoners' probation officers, so the impetus and the accessibility to address underlying mental health conditions is minimal. In fact there are likely negative consequences. Even during the duration of our seminar, the Government cut almost all restorative justice programs in prisons, and ALL the funding to Circles of Support and Accountability (CSAs) across the country. CSAs are community groups that partner with recently released sexual offenders to support their reintegration and ensure that they do not reoffend. I had never even thought of this side of the law before. I had never thought about how eventually, most prisoners are released or about how well - or how poorly - penal institutions prepare them for that release. One detainee explained how, when he got out of prison for the first time, he had been in jail many years and was so lost and had no support. He'd suffer a major anxiety attack in the middle of a supermarket. He'd stand for ages at a streetlight panicking; he said, "all I needed was someone to hold my hand and walk me across the street. I was so lost- I didn't know what to do, but if someone had put a gun in my hand I'd know exactly what to do." There was no one there to support him at that time. He re-offended and came back to prison.

Overall, the Student-Initiated-Seminar was an incredibly rich learning experience that I will take with me for the rest of my life. The unique combination of inclusive and interdisciplinary pedagogy, experiential learning, and critical perspectives was an incredible success. The seminar helped me question some fundamental assumptions of our legal system, as well as develop new ideas for how to best realize justice and public safety. I am confident that this seminar has made me a better student, a better lawyer and a better person, and I'd like to express my sincere gratitude to its organizers, its supervisor, and the Faculty for facilitating its realization



"Surveillance" by Jonathan McIntosh

SURVEILLANCE in the Post-Snowden Era | La SURVEILLANCE dans l'ère post-Snowden

Mercredi le 2 avril, 12h45-14h30 | NCDH 312

Nearly a year ago, Edward Snowden's revelations of the NSA's surveillance of civilians shook the public sphere. Join the Canadian Civil Liberties Association at McGill Law and IPITPOL to learn more about the US' and Canada's surveillance of citizens, and the implications for governance and constitutional rights.

Panélistes:

- **SUKANYA PILLAY**

General Counsel, Canadian Civil Liberties Association

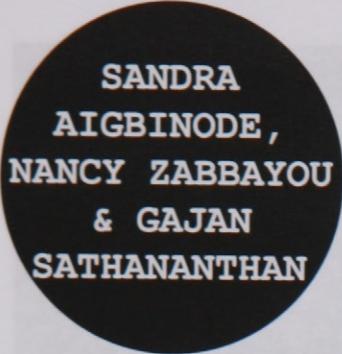
- **VINCENT GAUTRAIS**

Chaire de l'Université de Montréal en droit de la sécurité et des affaires électroniques

- **ALLEN MENDELSON**

Internet Lawyer

La présentation sera bilingue. Nourriture et breuvages seront servis.



#I, TOO, AM MCGILL

#I AM MCGILL

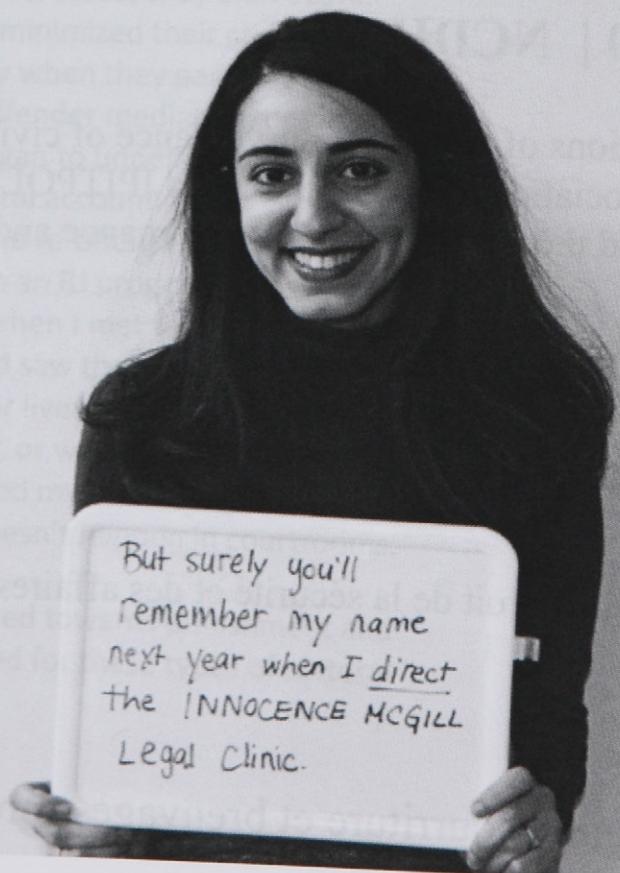
This is a photo campaign highlighting the faces and voices of ethno-cultural minority students at McGill University. Our campaign mission is three-fold:

- 1) We denounce the conscious and unconscious micro-aggressions that often silence our voices, and devalue our contributions.
- 2) We are proud of our varied contributions to this faculty. Our activism has shaped our institution, changed our peer's perceptions, and will hopefully continue to dismantle institutional and systemic barriers.
- 3) We are in solidarity with other student movements at elite institutions of higher learning, notably #ItooamHarvard and #ItooamOxford. We invite other McGill students to lend us their voices so together we can make a powerful noise. "We, Too, Are McGill" yet "We, Are McGill."

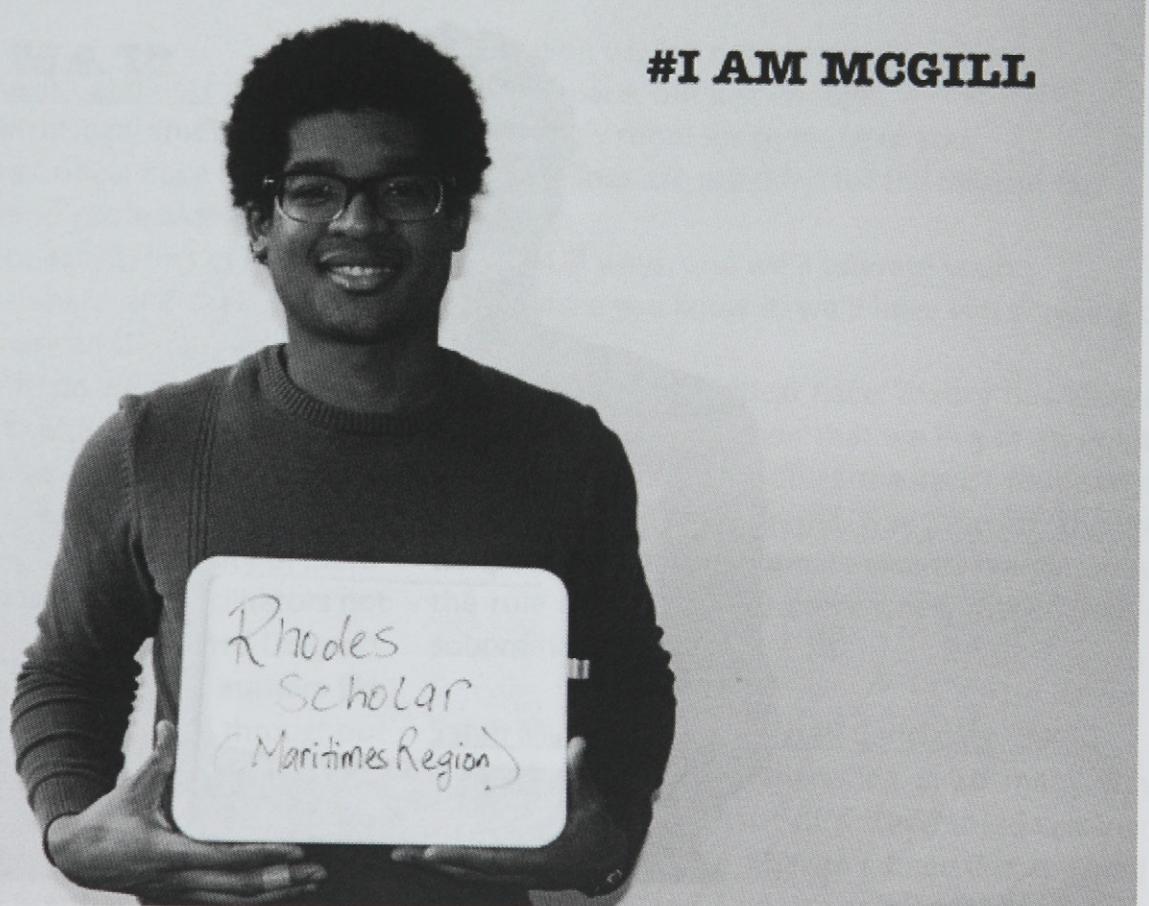
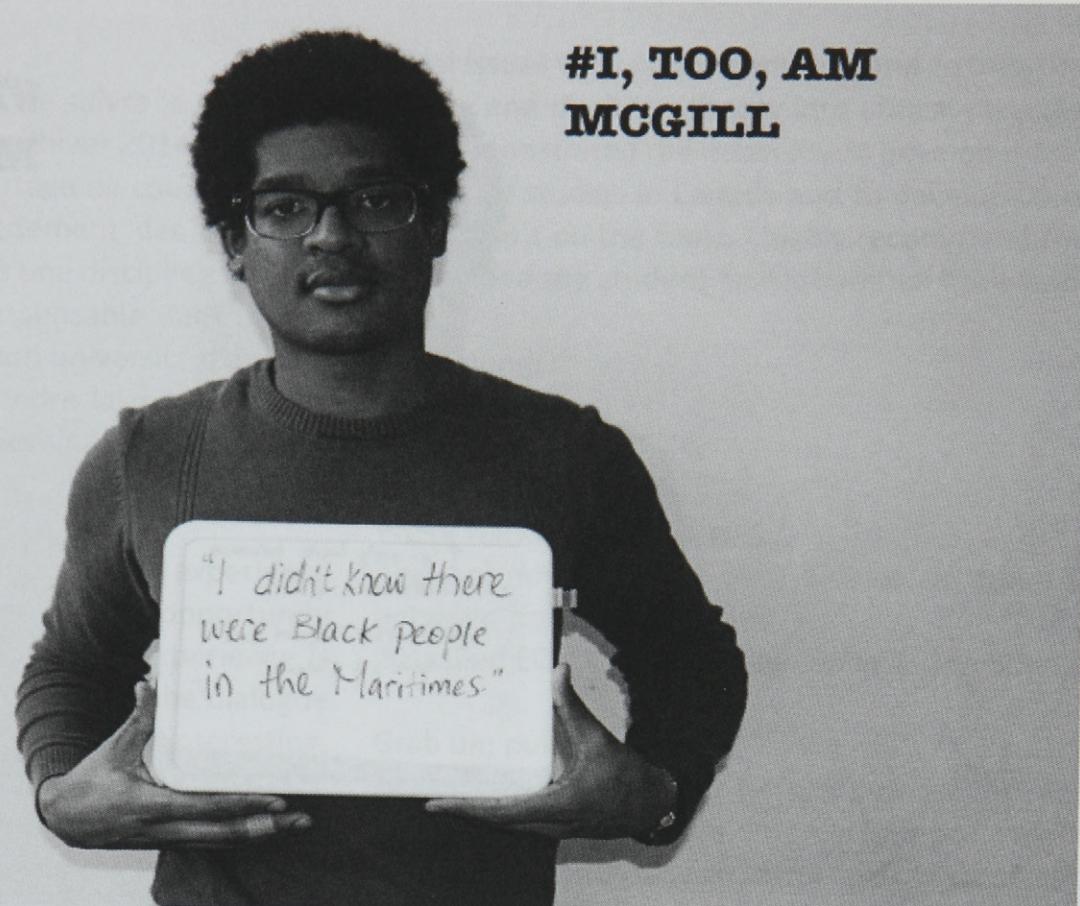
**#I, TOO, AM
MCGILL**

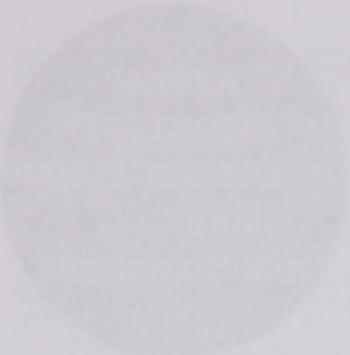


#I AM MCGILL



REFLECTIONS FROM STUDENTS IN THE WINTER STUDENT-LED SEMINAR, RESEARCH AND PRACTICE IN CRITICAL RACE THEORY

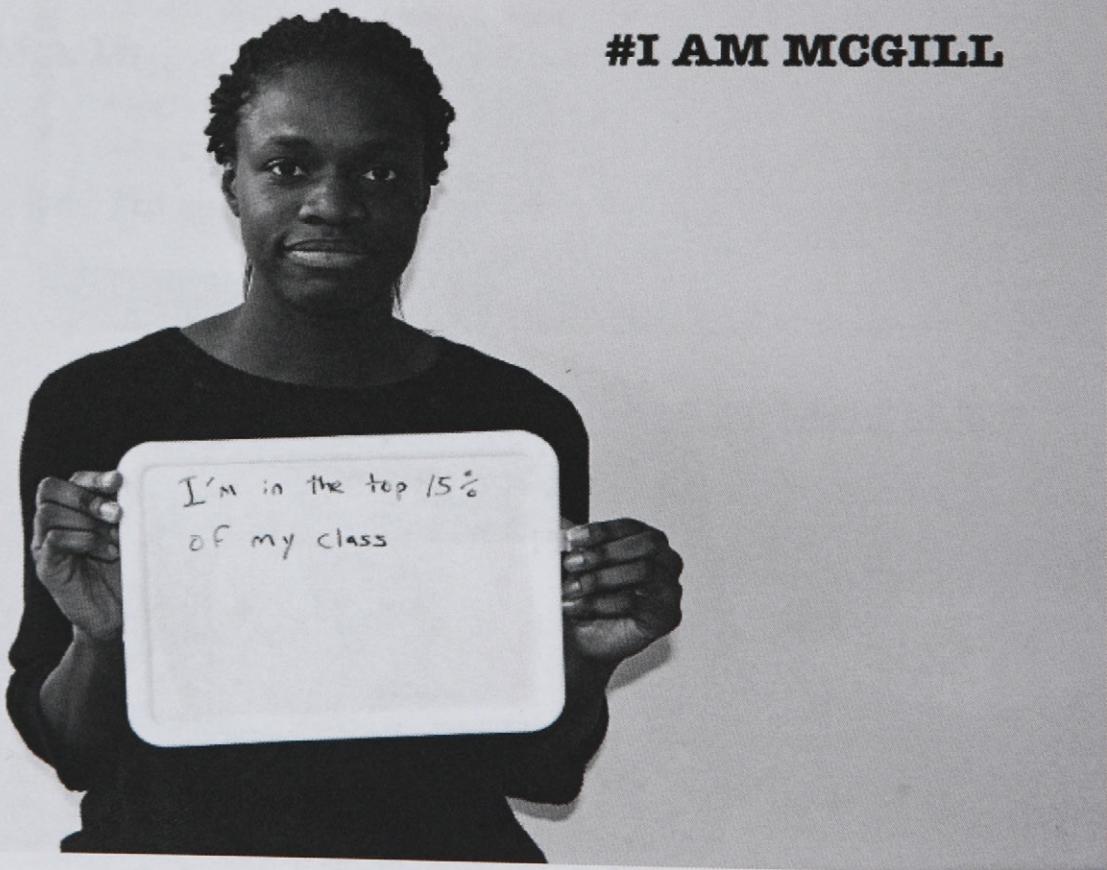
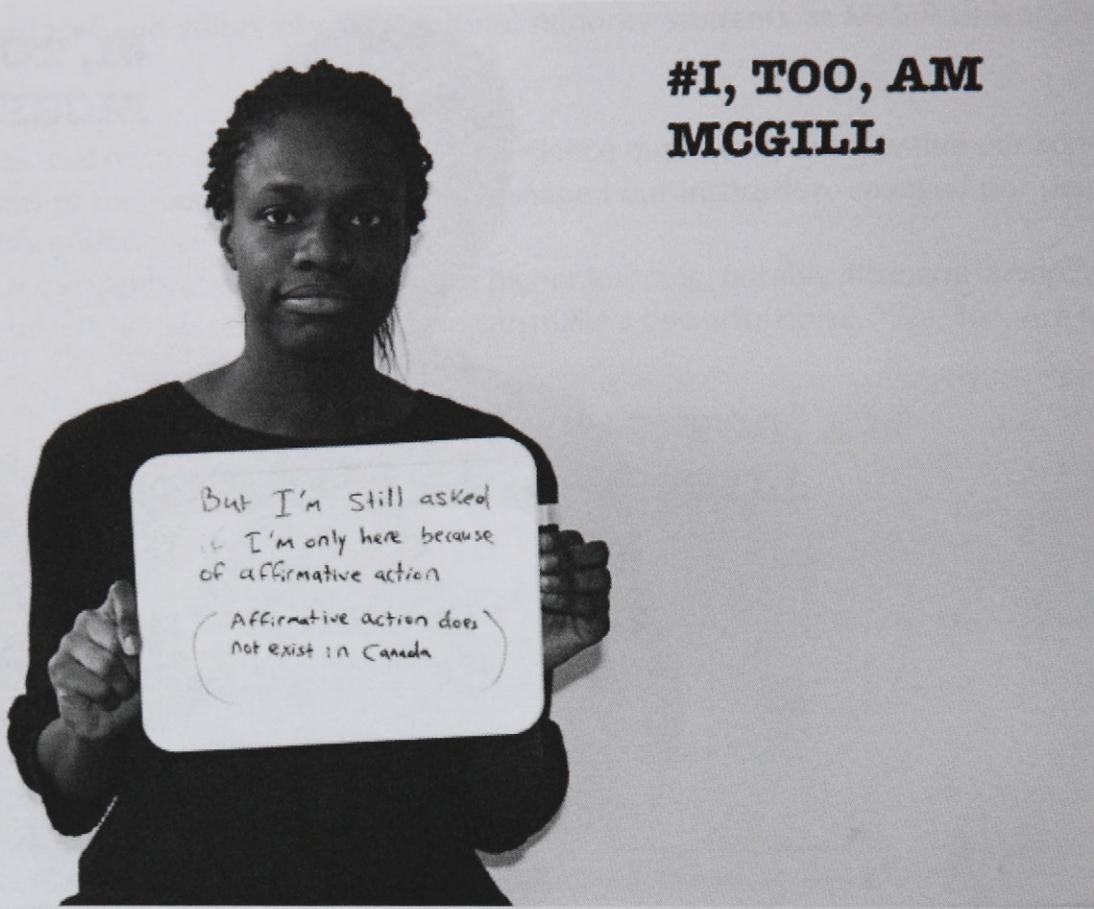




#I, TOO, AM MCGILL
#I AM MCGILL

This is a
medium
size

One can make
a difference
in the world
by being
a good
example



The entire series is available on Facebook and Tumblr!

REFLECTIONS FROM STUDENTS IN THE WINTER STUDENT-LED SEMINAR, RESEARCH AND PRACTICE IN CRITICAL RACE THEORY

Nicolas Griehsler

Etudiant en échange, j'ai eu l'opportunité de suivre le séminaire Critical Race Theory au cours du semestre d'hiver 2014. Sous une forme pédagogique propice à un riche partage de connaissances et d'échange d'informations par l'enseignement des étudiants par et pour les étudiants, je me suis initié à une discipline du droit non seulement inconnue mais surtout impensable dans ma région d'origine, l'Europe. De retour dans mon université d'origine, Sciences Po Paris, je ne pourrai que défendre la mise en place d'un enseignement par Student Initiated Seminars!

Marion Rebriere

The Critical Race Theory seminar has been a great experience for me. Being a French student, I had never had the opportunity to have a student initiated seminar. The learning experience is very different; it creates a comfort zone that makes the dialogue among members of the class easier and surely more interesting, with qualified and warm students animating the class. The CRT subject in itself would deserve more than a semester, for it offers an alternative vision of the law and the society as we perceive it. It made me rethink things I thought were normal in a constructive and challenging way.

Sebastián Rodríguez Alarcón, LL.M. Thesis Candidate

As a graduate student interested in critical legal studies, activism, intersectionality, and queer theory, the Critical Race Seminar has been the perfect fit for my research and professional interests, the best in the entire LL.M. program. The facilitators of the course are extremely well-prepared and passionate and their previous professional experiences in African-American studies, gender and sexuality studies, and journalism have been essential to propose an interdisciplinary perspective to the topics of the course. The theoretical framework of the course is strong and rigorous. Each of the authors and readings has been carefully selected for each session. I was personally surprised by the diversity of literature that was selected in the syllabus. The student facilitators not only bring traditional literature in the field like Richard Delgado, but also more recent and controversial literature by authors like Dean Spade. Moreover, the topics we have discussed throughout the course range from history, theory, policy-making, law reform, activism, and indigenous issues, among other cutting-edge topics related to critical race theory.

The student facilitators have invited a number of guest lectures with very enriching perspectives and ideas towards the topics of the course. The seminar invites us each class to think critically and beyond what it is on the readings, the syllabus or the cases. The course is a good opportunity to explore the intersection of

racial issues with other identities, and to bring inputs from queer theory and disability theory into critical race theory. The course has demonstrated the necessity to develop more research on critical legal studies in Canada and to develop courses at Canadian law schools on the topic. I highly recommend the content of this course and the student facilitators that have lead this initiative.

Talia Joundi

Equality

Oh stop complaining,
We're handing you the stick.
And no, not the short end! Believe us, there is no difference
between hers, his and yours,
It's called EQUALITY: the same end used to open the same doors!

Grab on; pull your weight,
We're running a business here, it's called "The State."
So please, we don't have time for your particularities.
Stories of racism, classism, structures of oppression,
Are long-gone history! Akin to the Great Depression.

Depend on us, but not too much;
Take up space, but just enough.
There's only room for so many of you,
Opportunities are provided for the diligent few.

Learn OUR ways, and we'll tolerate yours.
(And before you know it, we'll have you crawling on all fours).[1]

[1] Engaging with Critical Race Theory has allowed our class to challenge the assumption that we live in an equitable society. If we do not honestly address the racist foundations of Canada's legal order, and the systemic way in which the country's institutions continue to discriminate against marginalized communities, the rule of law actually entrenches, rather than corrects, racial subordination.

Sarah Munsch, BAH (BCL/LLB Candidate, 2015)

Law school has been alienating in so many ways for me that taking CRT in the format of a student-led seminar couldn't have come at a better time. I haven't been this engaged in a class since my undergrad, and having a safe space to discuss and challenge myself amongst peers was invaluable in regaining the confidence I lost when starting this degree. I also really appreciated the opportunity to learn from peers, which moved away from a didactic approach to learning and reminded me of my agency as a student

in the learning process. Taking this seminar meant that I took responsibility for the work I was going to do for myself exclusively, and somehow that was easier than doing x-number of readings for a different faculty-taught class. I got so much out of every class and every reading because the focus was on learning and building, not on fitting someone else's learning objectives.

I'm really glad this Faculty offers student-led seminars like CRT, and I also think it should be offered as a Faculty-taught course given that student demand for this topic has been growing steadily and consistently.

Anonymous

As a participant in two student run seminars in the law faculty, I can say from experience that they are a valuable part of the teaching and learning experience for students at McGill. I am appreciative of the time, effort, and, in some cases, the courage and tenacity of a few students who make these seminars available. In my opinion they really help to fill some of the gaps in knowledge that existing courses do not cover. With specific reference to the seminar on Critical Race Theory which was well facilitated by the student leaders, I was more than relieved to find a space where

I and others could engage in critical discussion about the topic. Emphasis on the word "critical". Too often Race Theory gets regulated to the realms of very subjective, emotionally and politically charged topics that only affect a disenfranchised few. This course help illuminate that this is a myth and provided the knowledge and tools to help us as students to take a hard, critical look at ourselves and the society we live in and to make decisions about how we want engage with it. Until I participated in this course I had not come across anything like it in any other department. I feel this gap is not limited to McGill but is exists in post-secondary curriculum across Canada. So kudos to the students that run them and to the department for making a space for them. I hope McGill Law continues to take the lead with these kinds of initiatives and follow through by formally offering these kinds of courses in the curriculum and hiring and tenuring qualified staff to teach them.

benefits on a student's academic performance, especially in the classroom, and the impact of these factors on the student's overall well-being.



CONTOURS LAUNCH

The moment we have been waiting for all year is almost here!

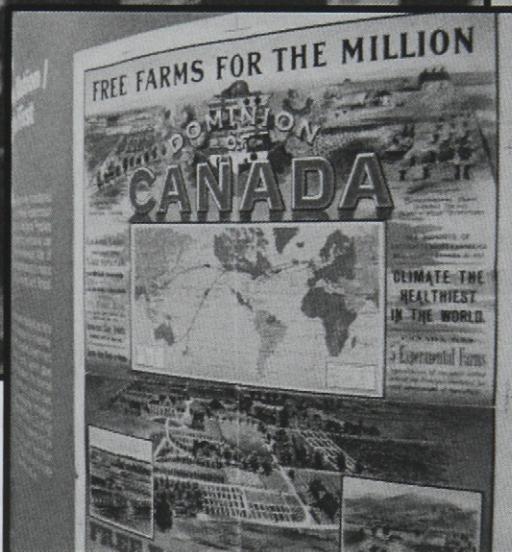
That's right, you guessed it, the launch of volume II of *Contours: Voix des Femmes en Droit, Voices of Women in Law* will be following tradition and taking place in the last week of classes. C'est à dire que mardi, le 8 avril 2014, nous serons dans l'atrium de 12:30 à 14:30 avec des cupcakes, du punch, et bien sûr la nouvelle édition de *Contours*. Stop by and pick up a copy to see what your classmates are thinking and writing about. This year's volume features an in-depth interview with the Honorable Claire L'Heureux-Dubé, reflections on beauty and femininity, a philosophical take on the abortion debate, and much much more!

Contours would not be possible without the Dean's Discretionary Fund and the Law Students' Association, whom we sincerely thank for their generous support

Le Centre commémoratif de l'Holocauste à Montréal présente
The Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre presents



On Sun Indian Residential School, Gleichen, Alberta, 1945.
General Synod Review, Anglican Church of Canada, 1951-1961.



Apprendre
To Learn

Ressentir
To Feel

Se souvenir
To Remember

Agir
To Act

100 ans de perte | 100 Years of Loss

Le régime des pensionnats au Canada The Residential School System in Canada

- Vernissage | Opening : 3 avril 2014 à 18h
- Exposition ouverte au public | Exhibition open to the public : 4 avril au 1^{er} mai
- Le Wapikoni mobile fait escale au Centre | The Wapikoni mobile stops at the Centre : 9 avril à 19h

wapikoni
mobile depuis 10 ans



**A
BIT
OFF
THE
TOP**


Centre commémoratif
de l'Holocauste à Montréal
Montreal Holocaust
Memorial Centre

5151 Ch. de la Côte-Ste-Catherine
Montréal, Québec H3W 1M6
mhmc.ca
mhmchumanrights.ca



SANDRA
AIGBINODE

MCGILL LAW CARES

I hate lawyers, he said! That was what an STM staff member told me during a visit to the STM office to get my OPUS card. He looked at my ID, read that I was a law student, and held up his hands in an "X" formation.

Lawyers have a bad reputation in the community. Perhaps we will never know the precise origin of this reputation, but what we do know is that these negative perceptions are commonplace. Just take a look at these jokes:

Q: "how can you tell a lawyer is lying?"
A: "his lips are moving."

Q: "what do you throw a drowning lawyer?"
A: "his partners."

"The postal service just recalled their latest new stamps. Lawyers were part of the design (in front) but people couldn't figure out which side to spit on."

So..... McGill Law Cares was created to bridge the gap between McGill law students, and the Greater Montreal community to show them that - lawyers do care! Our inaugural year was a success thanks to our dedicated volunteers. We were able to: feed over 100+ homeless people a three-course thanksgiving dinner, run a clothes, food, and book drive in collaboration with the McGill Law Journal, and we are presenting to at-risk youths and wards of the state about higher education, and considering law as a profession.



Community • Compassion • Justice



MLC

If you are interested in directing or being a part of McGill Law Cares next year, please email: mcgillcares@gmail.com!



ROBERT
LECKEY

COMMENTS FROM PROF. LECKEY

My comments will be brief.

I acted as faculty supervisor for a student-led seminar on Law and Sexuality in winter 2009. A couple of times since then I have agreed to be supervisor for seminars that weren't ultimately selected or approved by the associate dean (academic). I have also from time to time responded to requests for advice from students running such a seminar.

I believe that the seminar I supervised functioned well. The quality of the students' papers impressed me. One or two of them were later published in a peer-review journal. The students seemed to seize the space of a course graded pass/fail not to avoid working, but to experiment and take a risk.

To contextualize that student-led seminar and its impact for those enrolled, I should add that Outlaw had earlier asked a couple of us openly gay faculty members to teach a course in Law and Sexuality. For neither of us, though, was sexuality a primary focus of teaching and research. We tried to bring our cri-

tical perspectives as members of a sexual-orientation minority into our teaching of large-enrolment core courses. But giving up a large class in our areas of research in favour of a specialized seminar on sexuality wasn't a priority for us. (The assumption that a gay or lesbian professor would or should be the one to teach a sexuality seminar raises a bunch of issues that I won't get into here.)

My point overall is that the student-led seminar allowed the students to turn their energies from complaining about a perceived lack in the curricular offerings towards shaping their legal education.

GREEN LAW
COMMITTEE

GREEN LAW COMMITTEE RECRUITMENT

The Green Law Committee is recruiting a co-chair and other committee members for next year!

Our main activity is running Plate Club, which lends reusable plates, glasses and utensils to Faculty events to reduce waste. Nous continuerons également de poursuivre la compensation des émissions de carbone de l'AÉD, et d'étudier les moyens de rendre la Faculté plus respectueuse de l'environnement. Time commitment is minimal (<1 hour/week) and flexible. First-years are particularly encouraged to apply!

Holler if this interests you - greenlaw.committee@gmail.com.

THANK YOU

FROM: LEGAL ETHICS AND ADVO-
CACY [PRAC 155D]

TO: ALL SECOND YEAR STUDENTS

*Félicitations, et un grand merci de
votre travail acharné!*

*Congratulations to all of you
for completing your 2L moots!*

TO: ALL 2L MOOT JUDGES

*Warm thanks for having judged a
second year moot!*

John LoFranco
Allen Mendelsohn
Mariam Pal
Bradley Richard Thompson

McGill Faculty of Law
Jakub Adamski
Vanessa Arviset
Frédéric Bachand
Andrea Kay Bjorklund
Daniel Boyer
Angela Campbell
Justice Carol Cohen
Armand De Mestral
Jaye Ellis
Richard Gold
Helena Lamed
Robert Leckey
Lionel Smith
Margaret Somerville

Aide juridique de Longueuil
Myriam Couillard

Baron Abrams
Beryl Baron

Blakes Cassels Graydon
Simon Seida
Sophie Tremblay

Borden Ladner Gervais
Peter Pamel

Boro Polnicky Lighter
Dylan Jones

Cain Lamarre Casgrain Wells
Caroline Briand

Clyde & Co
Noémie Bégin
Vincent Locas

**Commission d'enquête sur l'octroi
et la gestion des contrats publics
dans l'industrie de la construction**
David Drouin-Lé

Davies Ward Philipps Vineberg
Hugo Babos-Marchand
William Brock
Michael Lubetsky
George Pollack

Dentons
Ari Sorek

Fishman Flanz Meland Paquin
Nicolas Brochu

Gasco Goodhue St Germain
Ronald Silverson

Hammerschmid and Associates
Linda Hammerschmid
Sami Staltari

Hockey Québec
Peter Moraitis

Irving Mitchell Kalichman
Jean-Michel Boudreau
Karim Renno
David Grossman
Amine Kettani

Kugler Kandestin
Robert Kugler
Olivera Pajani

Langlois Kronström Desjardins
Jessica Syms

Lavery de Billy
Laurence Bich-Carrière
Julie Brisson
Brittany Carson
Mary Delli Quadri

McCarthy Tétrault
Jean Lortie
Simon Potter

McMillan
Philipp Duffy
Elisa Henry



Avez-vous faim?

Quand : 2 avril, 2014 12:45 - 2:15

Où : NCDH 316

À apporter : Votre lunch!

What: Looking for tips on how to eat well? Avez vous envie de bien manger, mais n'avez pas le temps de cuisiner? Want to know how to read a menu as well as you do a nutrition label? Le Comité du bien-être étudiant a le plaisir de vous inviter à un atelier sur la nutrition offert par Danielle Levy. Danielle is a Registered Holistic Nutrition Consultant (R.H.N) and plant-based cook. She is eager to share with McGill Law students her integrative and comprehensive approach to nutrition and a balanced lifestyle. Danielle is passionate about empowering others to achieve optimal health and well-being.

For more info: <http://daniellelevynutrition.com/about-danielle/#Lu6AXvfiBGJaPbMi.99>



DANIELLE LEVY
NUTRITION CONSULTING



LINDSAY
LITTLE

After reading about the mass demise of chickens in *Joly v. La Ferme Ré-Mi*, I have (temporarily) taken up veganism. Bring on the lentils, the tofu and other alternative sources of protein! Plus, this may be the last chance I have to write a heavier “winter” recipe, as spring impends (despite a notable lack of evidence to this regard). With Tort and Foundation papers looming, I’ll sign off here, but suffice it to say that this is a simple recipe that produces a large amount of food very quickly. Perfect for casual study dinners with friends and frozen dinners during exam period!

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 3 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 carrot, chopped
- ½ green pepper, chopped
- ½ red pepper, chopped
- ½ zucchini, chopped
- 1 package mushrooms, sliced
- 1 can lentils, well rinsed
- 2 cans blended tomatoes
- 2 tablespoons dried basil

VEGAN TOMATOE SAUCE

- 1 ½ tablespoons dried oregano
- healthy pinch red pepper flakes
- ½ tsp salt, or to taste
- 1 tsp ground pepper, or to taste
- ½ cup old red wine (optional)

Instructions

1. Heat olive oil in a large frying pan or pot. Add garlic, onion and carrots, cook until onion is translucent. (Note: if you’re unable to resist meat, cook ground beef at this stage until well browned. Drain any additional liquid after meat is fully cooked)
2. Add peppers, zucchini and mushrooms until all vegetables well-cooked. Add basil, oregano, red pepper flakes and wine. Cook until aromatic and vegetables soft.
3. Add lentils and blended tomatoes. Use water to rinse tomato cans and to give a thinner consistency to the sauce (be careful of adding too much additional liquid!).
4. Simmer covered for 30 minutes on low-medium heat, until flavors blended. Taste-test (caution: will be hot) for any additional spices required. Serve over your preferred spaghetti noodles (white, fresh, rice or squash, to name a few!).

MATTHEW
CHUNG

CREMINI, PORTOBELLO AND KALE STROGANIGG IN A ROSEMARY AND RED WINE GRAVY

Adapted from “Cozy Millet Bowl” by Angela Liddon (<http://ohsheglows.com/2012/02/26/cozy-millet-bowl-with-mushroom-gravy-and-kale/>)

Ingredients

- 1 cup uncooked pearl barley
- 3 ¼ cups vegetable stock, divided
- 1 medium Spanish onion
- 3 cloves of garlic, crushed using garlic press or minced using microplane
- 8 oz cremini mushrooms, stems removed, thinly sliced

- 1 large portobello mushroom, stems removed, cut into small cubes
- 1 medium Spanish onion
- 1 cup kale, stems removed, chopped and washed
- 2 sprigs of fresh rosemary, minced
- 2 tbsp nutritional yeast
- 1 tbsp nama shoyu, tamari or soya sauce
- Red wine or balsamic vinegar, to taste
- 1 tbsp corn starch
- Olive oil
- Salt and black pepper, to taste

Directions

1. Rinse barley under cold water in a fine-mesh metal strainer.
2. In a medium-sized pot, bring pearl barley and 2 cups of vegetable stock to a boil. Reduce heat to medium and cover. Simmer until all the liquid has been absorbed, after about 30 minutes. Remove from heat.
3. In a medium pan, sauté onions and garlic with some olive oil. Add a pinch of salt to draw out liquid.
4. Once onions are clear, add cremini and portobello mushrooms into pan. Add another pinch of salt. Cook until most of the water has been drawn out from the mushrooms, after about 12 minutes.

5. Add nutritional yeast, minced rosemary, nama shoyu, black pepper and a splash of red wine. Continue to cook for a few more minutes, stirring frequently, until flavour develops.
6. In a separate bowl, combine 1½ cup of vegetable stock with corn starch. Add corn starch mixture to pan and stir in kale. Cook until kale is tender and mixture has thickened. Add additional corn starch to pan, if necessary, until a gravy-like consistency is achieved.
7. Divide barley into two bowls and pour stroganoff over top. Decorate dish with any leftover rosemary.

STÉPHANIE
DÉBORAH
JULES

Law 1

BROKEN SILENCE

Broken silence by
Unknown shadows
Slowly creeping on
Shuddering bones and
Trembling skin.
Footstep after footstep in the dark night I lay.
Directing the course of this dream,
To whatever might be under the moon's gaze.

At last, escape!

Footsteps become run.
Freedom breezes through my curls,
Blows through my nightgown,
Embraces me just like the wind,
Until it leaves me numb.

Is this a dream?
It might be.
Is it not reality?
Maybe it is.

No matter the dimension:
My silence is now broken by
Unknown shadows
Slowly creeping on
My shuddering bones and
My trembling skin.

DEREK
ZEISMAN

BOB LOBLAW'S LAW BLOG

PTSD AND THE POLITICAL ABYSS - PART II

In the days after my car accident, once I had regained consciousness, there was talk that Mr. Harper would make a return visit to the riding, to provide bedside wishes to his stricken candidate.

That plan was soon scrapped. The excuse was that Mr. Harper's campaign jet was too large to land at our local airport. I suspected he simply had bigger fish to fry; the wave of sympathetic good wishes following my accident seemed sufficient to beat down surging NDP support in my constituency, and sweep me into office without my needing to so much as leave my hospital bed.

Mr. Harper and his team were somewhat less well-wishing when, less than two weeks after my accident, the news of my outstanding alcohol smuggling charges was revealed on front pages across the country and as a lead story on the CTV National News. (Not surprisingly, I received far more airplay as the "lawless law-and-order" Tory candidate than I had as the "tragic accident victim" Tory candidate.)

The charges stemmed from an incident in July 2004, when I flew to Los Angeles to retrieve a 1989 Mercedes convertible I had unwisely, impetuously, purchased on eBay. The plan was to drive the car directly back to Vancouver, where I had been working for the past two years.

Unfortunately, the car broke down before I had even made it out of the state, stranding me in a dusty northern California town for nearly a week. And that was when I broke down too.

What is one to say about an emotional breakdown? How can such a thing be adequately explained to the dispassionate observer, without resorting to maudlin sentiment or embarrassed over-simplification? There are no easy answers to these questions.

But in the midst of the cutthroat universe of federal election campaigns, the answer becomes easy. Emotional trauma is not to be discussed under any circumstances. For if it is, the bearer of the trauma will inevitably be branded a liar in certain quarters and an unstable menace to civilized society in others. Ridicule, contempt and cynical disbelief will be the orders of the day.

Not surprisingly, then, I did not discuss the details of those charges after they came to light. Aside from a few foolhardy, too-little-too-late attempts to plead for my day in court ("innocent until proven guilty," and all that) to the news media, I was left to watch in guilt-ridden, self-hating silence

as my electoral support evaporated almost instantaneously, and my former political allies ran for cover as they attempted to preserve their own hides by shielding themselves from my existence and disavowing any and all connections to me.

This was my very own real-life Perfect Storm, and it nearly killed me.

The worst part of it all was that, if one were to look at the facts in a purely dispassionate and legalistic fashion, I was indeed guilty of the charges I was facing. How could I deny that fact? I could not. Once my car had finally been repaired, after a week of tortuous isolation in the dusty northern California town (ironically named Fortuna, of all things) in which I found myself stranded, I had irrationally purchased more than 100 bottles of hard liquor at a supermarket just down the street from my mechanic.

To this day, I have no proper explanation for why I did this. It seemed that I had lost my mind – or at least a piece of it – during the week since my car had had a roadside meltdown. I was now having a meltdown of my own. It will be difficult, perhaps impossible, for most people to understand, but this is the nature of PTSD. If untreated, it can grow in the mind like a cancer, and explode into inexplicably irrational, self-destructive behaviour at the most inopportune moments.

I compounded my insanity by then driving non-stop back to the Canadian border. By the time I arrived at my fateful final destination, I was badly sleep deprived and deeply depressed, still haunted by demons of friends and hopes dead and gone.

I then attempted to cross the border with a car stuffed full of alcohol, none of which I declared to the officer I encountered that sunny July morning. What's more, the car I was driving (legally purchased, and with all proper paperwork in my possession) still had U.S. license plates on it, which obviously (as a Canadian citizen) were not in my name. This fact guaranteed that I would be pulled over for a secondary check by the Canada Border Services Agency, even if my car were empty. Which, of course, it was not.

It would be rather an understatement to say that my little caper, such as it was, was something less than the crime of the century. It was ham-handed and foolish enough to make the Watergate burglars look like Thomas Crown by comparison.

But that was really the point of it all. I was not looking to evade the authorities with my nefarious cargo. I am not much of a drinker; in fact I rarely drink anything stronger than beer

or wine. What's more, I had no plans to resell my booze, throw a massive party with it, or even give it away. In fact, I had no plans for it at all. I was just about as inept and half-hearted a rumrunner as a man could possibly be. Jay Gatsby I was not.

You see, emotional trauma, mental illness – call it what you may – comes in a great many forms. They are not easily understood, or easily explained, by either the patient or the doctor.

My own illness came on slowly, in the sad and lonely and ghost-like netherworld in which my mind, my thoughts and my heart found themselves, in the aftermath of a two-year diplomatic posting to the North African nation of Algeria.

I had joined the Canadian Foreign Service in 1998, in the immediate aftermath of my employment on Parliament Hill, and the completion of a master's degree at Queen's University.

I had joined the Foreign Service with big dreams, high hopes, and an impressive array of life, work and academic experience. By the fall of 2002, when I returned to Canada after two years abroad, I was a wreck, and my life seemed to be in smoking ruins.

Little was I to know at the time that the "smoking ruins" were still only inside my head. It would take my border altercation, the ensuing public revelations, and my soul-crushing conviction in the court of public opinion to finally bring the "smoking ruins" of my mind into clearer focus, as I watched everything that I had worked so hard for in my life slip away, like a great wrecked ship silently, stealthily sliding beneath the icy gray seas – down toward its final watery resting place.

What happened to me, what transpired in my life during those two agonizingly long years in Algeria, would be enough to fill a book. Perhaps one day I will finally write that book. For now, the details remain too painful to mull over in any detail, even a dozen years on. What follows here is little more than an inadequate "Cole's Notes" version of some of the more profound lowlights of my time spent as Our Man in Algiers.

I should never have agreed to go there; to this day wish that I had not. But I was a good soldier, and foolishly trusted in the higher powers who ran the Embassy and the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Most people have a vision of the diplomat's life as being one of glamour and ease, with just a dash of intrigue for good measure. They imagine diplomacy as an endless circuit of cocktail parties, sumptuous state dinners and polo matches. But this ideal is largely that – a romanticized ideal, one that is about a century or more out of date.

When I arrived in Algiers, in late summer 2000, the country

was far from the epitome of glamour, diplomatic or otherwise. Algeria had only recently emerged from a decade of civil and religious war that had left hundreds of thousands dead.

In response to this instability, the Department had constructed a prison-like fortress to house the offices and homes of all Canadian diplomatic and military staff. I spent the next two years of my life holed up in that prison, surrounded by towering concrete walls, barbed wire, machine guns, flak jackets and armoured vehicles. It was a sad, lonely, and isolating experience. Opportunities to escape the compound for work-related duties were few and far between. Opportunities to escape for social purposes – what I would call "emotional rejuvenation" – were rarer still.

Even this might not have been so bad, had I meshed well with my fellow diplomats at that small mission. Unfortunately, as I was to belatedly learn, an isolated post such as Algiers tends to attract a wide array of diplomats who are cracked beyond repair in one way or another. Several of my supervisors (to be vague) were nasty tyrants who had a penchant for bullying and psychological warfare that rapidly tried my patience and exhausted my powers of self-defence.

Others were incurable alcoholics. Several others had appetites that ranged from the morally dubious to the outright reprehensible, if not illegal. But no matter – the prevailing attitude seemed to be that a diplomat (particularly of the Canadian persuasion) could get away with just about anything in a "developing" country like Algeria.

I soon came to feel like I was living in some terrible madhouse/fishbowl hybrid.

To escape the depressing grip of my fellow diplos, I frequently sought refuge with the military staff located up the hill in our compound. I became good friends with a few of them in my first year at the embassy. We used to play poker, watch TV, play pool, and make dinner from time to time. I became very good friends with two of the soldiers. One was a hilarious Newfoundland Francophone from Fogo Island named Marc.

The other, the deputy commander of the military contingent, was a wonderful guy from rural Québec named Gerry. Gerry was literally one of the nicest fellows I have ever had the privilege of knowing. He was always so positive, so encouraging, and always had a smile and a laugh for everyone. He was always ready to talk anytime you had a problem, or were just feeling down. The two of them helped me to maintain my sanity during my first year in Algiers.

The three of us used to go swimming quite a bit together – until the Embassy's Head of Admin had the pool drained. Ostensibly for "repairs" which never came. No more pool.

At the end of my first year, the ambassador had Marc sent back to Canada. He did not appreciate Marc's powers of

observation where questionable goings-on were concerned. No more Marc.

I went away in early September, 2001 to Sweden and Denmark for some badly-needed R&R. I went to see a good friend of mine from Carleton who was now living in Stockholm. It was a nice, relaxing time. I said goodbye to him at the Stockholm metro on the early morning of Sept. 11, 2001 and went to the airport, to fly back to Algiers via London.

I landed at Heathrow without incident, then waited for my connecting flight in the business lounge. When we finally boarded, I was mystified by what I saw. Air Algérie flights were notoriously tardy and inefficient. That day, however, what I saw would have rivalled well-oiled German efficiency at its finest. The plane took off and arrived in Algiers by early evening.

Upon my return, Gerry picked me up and told me the news, the news that I had been oblivious to throughout the day. The World Trade Center was no more. I thought he was joking. He was not. And I knew that the world – and my world – would never be the same again.

I was genuinely traumatized by that attack. I guess we all were. But to this day I have not been able to shake the feelings of horror and despair that I felt that night after arriving home, when I turned on my TV. I think part of it was the fact that I myself had been flying around that entire day – and on an Air Algérie flight no less.

Yet none of it had even been necessary. The news had broken while I was in London. I had a cell phone. The Embassy could easily have phoned to tell me to stay put, as a safety precaution. It would have been the reasonable thing to do. Yet they did not. As time passed my irritation grew, as I reflected on the fact that my employer had played Russian roulette with my life.

Shortly after my return, Gerry was accompanying me back from an event in our armoured Mercedes. As we drove back into the compound through the high steel gates, I remember him chuckling as he said to me, "Welcome back to the Hotel California." To which I wryly replied, "Yeah... you can check out any time you like, but you can never leave."

Gerry laughed. I laughed. Then, less than two weeks later, he shot himself. Without any warning or apparent cause. I was utterly devastated. No more Gerry.

A memorial service took place on the lawn behind the ambassador's residence. I don't think I had ever felt more lonely or isolated in my entire life. The Department, ever the kind and sensitive employer, sent no counselling assistance from HQ. We were told that if we needed to talk to anyone, we should make an appointment with the doctor at the French Embassy.

I was disgusted, but not surprised. By this point, nothing surprised me about the Department anymore.

But I had no idea what to do with my feelings of grief, loneliness, isolation, and self-blame (why hadn't I seen it coming?). And so, as the months rolled on, the grief gradually percolated into anger, and then into rage. But the self-recrimination never, ever went away. I blamed myself for what had happened to Gerry, and – in my darkest hours – wondered why it had not been me to face that fate, rather than my good and trusted friend.

I could go on, but there seems little point. The pieces in that terrible puzzle – even to this day – somehow seem so much less in the sum of their parts than they were to me at the time, when experienced individually. Yes, I have a dozen stories like the ones above that I could share. Like the rainstorm and flash flood that invaded my home, destroyed half my things and – worst of all by far – killed scores of people throughout the capital. Like the envelopes of white powder that my embassy employees repeatedly received in the mail, at precisely the same time as the post-9/11 anthrax scare.

Like the rampant financial incompetence – even theft – that I witnessed in my day-to-day work, amongst Algerians and Canadians alike. Like the yelling, screaming and insults hurled at me (and others) by senior staff, for no apparent reason other than sheer imperial arrogance. Like the roof of my nearly-new house that leaked badly after each rainfall, was promptly repaired at God-knobs-what-expense, and then just kept on leaking anyway, right up until the bitter end.

And bitter it was, for after two years of this insanity, I felt that I was trapped in some insane half-Kafka, half-Camus novel. It was half tragedy, half farce, and all very trying.

I have all these stories, and many more besides. But at the end of the day, they all led to the same outcome. I was an emotional, physical and psychological mess by the time I returned to Canada in late 2002. Upon my return, I was 60 pounds lighter than I had been two years earlier. From 200 to 140 pounds is not an insubstantial drop.

Despite my belated efforts to seek medical assistance in the wake of my Algerian misadventure, my improvement was spotty at best. I was plagued by near-constant feelings of sadness, shame, anxiety, isolation, loneliness, anger, rage, and outright panic. I was unable to sleep at night, unable to concentrate or do my work effectively during the day. And for the longest time – until I finally received something approaching a proper PTSD diagnosis – I had no idea how or why things had gone so badly off the rails.

Even after that initial positive step forward, it often seemed

like “one step forward, two steps back” for me. My alcohol misadventure occurred nearly two years after I had returned from abroad – and yet, the one is directly connected to the other. I had so many feelings of anger, shame and self-recrimination after returning home. I used to wonder, sometimes constantly, why it was me who was safe and sound back in Canada, and not Gerry. Over time, these feelings seemed to morph into increasingly self-destructive behaviour.

That terrible day at the border in July 2004 was, I see now, a perverse cry for help, for understanding, for compassion. Little did I know then that the downstream effects of my irrational actions, born of feelings of despair and hopelessness, would be anything but positive. What I did that day was open a Pandora’s box that even now remains stubbornly ajar.

Suffice to say that post-traumatic stress disorder is a terrible affliction, one which I would never think to wish on even my worst foe. It has shattered what once looked to be a promising future. Even after years of sporadic therapy and ineffective medication, I still struggle with this beast.

PTSD is my dark demon. Its hallmarks are anxiety, anger, depression, and (in the darkest of moments) despair. Even now, years after the fact, my sleep is often plagued by recurring nightmares and frequent bouts of insomnia that leave me exhausted and dispirited.

All of these things would be difficult enough for any detached onlooker to comprehend. But when they become mixed into the vicious snake pit of electoral politics, as well as a “justice” system that has no understanding of, let alone compassion for, mental health issues, well... there can be no happy ending to this story.

From a political point of view, my illness is either to be disbelieved (in which case I am a liar, thus rendering me unfit for public office) or believed, but pitied and feared (in which case I am an unstable, PTSD-afflicted depressive, thus rendering me equally unfit for public office).

Life is not always fair or kind. I have come to understand this fact. But I do know that I love this country we call Canada, and all its people, places, history and culture, with all my heart.

All I have ever really wanted, from the moment I first watched those mesmerizing speeches at the 1984 Liberal Convention, was to serve my country to the very best of my ability. My vehicle to aid the country and its great people was to have been politics.

I’ve always loved politics. I have seen it as an honourable calling. I have viewed it as not a game or a racket, but as a professional vocation in which it is possible to achieve great

dreams, to make life just a little bit happier, a little bit easier for us all.

I always saw politics as the Art of the Possible. Yet for me, it has – at least for the time being – become a lost art. A decade ago, my own unresolved mental issues resulted in some pretty spectacular gaffes that likely earned me the title of Worst Candidate in the History of the Conservative Party. I accept those gaffes, and I own them. But I refuse to be defined by them, bullied by them, or – worst of all – destroyed by them.

Life, with all its sundry ups and downs, is a great learning experience. Even great suffering must be taken in stride, and used as best we can to improve our understanding of ourselves, to hopefully make ourselves stronger, wiser and more resilient in the long run.

It took me a long time – years, really – to come to terms with the fact that I will never be a “Golden Boy” of Canadian politics in the vein of a John Turner, a Pierre Trudeau or any of the other glorious children of privilege who find success in the sphere of public service. My past, and my own struggles with mental health issues, render me ineligible for such a label.

But I am a survivor, and I remain a tilter against windmills in the best Don Quixote tradition. My love for this great land persists, as does my desire to contribute my knowledge and energies to it in the field of public service. Perhaps one day I will return to politics, for it has and always shall remain my first love. Or perhaps I will make my mark in some other form of public enterprise.

Either way, I would like to make it clear that I regard my story as one of hope, rather than despair. Sometimes in life, bad things do happen to good people. But whether we are the unintentional creators of our own adversity, or simply have adversity thrust upon us, there is always hope for renewal and redemption. As one of my favourite singers, Tracy Bonham, so perfectly phrased it:

*Whether you fall
Means nothing at all
It's whether you get up
It's whether you get up.*

And so I have gotten back up, dusted myself off, and am doing my best to move on with my life to the best of my ability. It is sad that the term “mental illness” continues to carry with it such stigmas and loaded connotations. But for those of us who grapple with depression, whether occasionally or regularly, we must not allow society to tar us with ignorant assumptions that are both antiquated and prejudicial.

Instead, we must always do our best to reach out for help

when we need it, seek the resources that exist, and lobby hard for those that do not. In recent years, the Canadian military has belatedly begun to recognize the need to provide better care for its “wounded warriors,” those who suffer not only physical but emotional trauma in the line of duty.

Unfortunately, the Canadian Foreign Service is even less progressive-minded than DND in recognizing, and taking ownership of, its own “wounded warriors” – employees who, though we did not carry a gun, did our best to serve our country and promote its best interests, even while persevering through sometimes incredibly adverse circumstances. The Foreign Service – still very much rooted in a machismo, “suck it up, buttercup” 1960s mindset – has a long way to go in recognizing its deficiencies. Progress and hope are a long way off.

Similarly, the legal profession has never had a strong reputation for addressing mental health issues in a positive or constructive way. Far too often, depression in the law is self-medicated with alcohol, drugs, food, or some combination of these. It is a sobering thought. And so we must all strive to improve this in the years ahead, through stridently lobbying, effective communication, and – above all – compassion for others.

As Cardinal Richard Mahony once said, “Any society, any nation, is judged on the basis of how it treats its weakest members – the last, the least, the littlest.” Let us never fail to heed his words, as we continue to fight the debilitating effects of mental illness that continue to afflict so many citizens – including some of our own friends and colleagues here in the McGill Faculty of Law.

ELECTIONS



REFERENDUM QUESTION RE: MENTAL HEALTH SCREENING BY THE BARREAU DU QUÉBEC

“We, the McGill Law student body, ask the Comité d'accès à la profession, the Barreau du Québec and the École du Barreau to review their policy requiring applicants to disclose their mental health issues and their relationship with mental health professionals.”

As you may or may not know, the Barreau du Québec, through the Comité d'accès à la profession, requires applicants to fill out a questionnaire before being admitted to the École du Barreau. Only upon successful completion of the École du Barreau and after passing the Barreau's exams, may law students be admitted to the Barreau du Québec and become eligible to practice law.

The questionnaire requires applicants to respond to a number of questions regarding their mental health. The question which most preoccupies us is the following:

Êtes-vous présentement suivi par un médecin, un psychologue ou un thérapeute relativement à un problème de santé mentale?¹

Si le candidat répond dans l'affirmative, le Comité demande « un certificat de votre médecin, psychologue ou thérapeute attestant si vous êtes apte à exercer la profession d'avocat et qui précise sommairement la nature et la durée de votre problème. »

Nous sommes d'avis que ce genre de question est interdit par la *Charte des droits et libertés de la personne*. Dans un premier temps, la confidentialité de la relation thérapeutique est protégée par l'article 9. Le respect de la vie privée est également garanti par l'article 5. Qui plus est, l'article 10 de la Charte interdit la discrimination fondée sur un « handicap ou l'utilisation d'un moyen pour pallier ce handicap » et l'article 19 garantit que « nul ne peut exercer de discrimination dans l'admission, la jouissance d'avantages, la suspension ou l'expulsion... de tout ordre professionnel. »

Par ailleurs, exiger la divulgation d'un problème de santé mentale et obliger la fourniture d'une lettre de la part d'un professionnel de santé mentale pourrait avoir un effet néfaste sur la volonté des futurs avocats d'entreprendre la thérapie. Ces exigences pourraient même créer la situation absurde dans

laquelle un individu souffrant de troubles de santé mentale qui a décidé de ne pas poursuivre une thérapie est accepté sans question tandis que son confrère, qui poursuit un traitement, est obligé de subir à l'entrave de son droit fondamental à une relation de confidentialité professionnelle avec son thérapeute.

It is important to note that these types of questions are peculiar in the Canadian context. For instance, the Nova Scotia, Alberta, and Ontario Law Societies ask only that applicants disclose mental health issues which may pose an obstacle to their ability to practice.

The Barreau's practice is particularly problematic in light of the fact that it does not seem to be empirically grounded. In fact, one author has noted that "there is no evidence linking the presence (or absence) of mental health impairments to individuals' professional skills or abilities" and some studies have shown "a higher incidence of disciplinary problems among lawyers with no history of mental disability than among lawyers who experienced mental health problems in the past."²

Accordingly, we have brought this referendum question to you in an effort to convince the Barreau du Québec, the

École du Barreau, and the Comité d'accès à la profession to revisit their approach towards mental health. These types of questions are unacceptable. Not only do they appear to violate fundamental rights guaranteed under Quebec law, the Barreau's questionnaire perpetuates historic and present prejudice and stigmatization of mental health issues. Prejudice and stereotype have placed in the minds of many the notion that those who suffer from mental health issues of any nature are inherently unstable and untrustworthy. The time has come to challenge these preconceptions.

We ask you, the student body of McGill Law, to vote YES to begin a public dialogue with the Barreau du Québec. We hope this discussion will make a small contributing to shifting the discourse about mental health and will spare future applicants from being subjected to this discriminatory practice.

1. See: <http://www.barreau.qc.ca/pdf/formulaires/avocats/assermentation/demande-inscription-tableau-ordre.pdf>.

2. Josselyn, Sara. "Bar Mental Fitness Questions: Perpetuating the Stigma" (2007) 16 Dalhousie J Legal Stud 85 at 99, 88.

MESSAGE FROM THE CANDIDATES

PRESIDENT

JOHN SIMPSON

Bonjour tout le monde, je m'appelle John Simpson, et je me présente pour la position de Président de l'AÉD pour 2014-2015. Since starting at the Faculty of Law, I have represented you as a Student Member of Faculty Council in my first year, and as your VP-External of the LSA this year.

Dans mes divers rôles au sein de l'AÉD pendant les deux dernières années, mes buts principaux ont été de promouvoir une AÉD plus transparent et approchable au niveau institutionnel ainsi qu'au niveau personnel. Comme Président, je vais continuer à appuyer activement ces objectifs.

Specifically, I will continue to support mental health initiatives at the faculty through the Student Well-being Committee to ensure that there are resources available to help students when they suffer from stress and anxiety. In addition, I plan to advocate for a change of the new



invasive Bar School Admission questions. When it comes time to spend the LSA's Accumulated Surplus, I will ensure that the students of this faculty are informed and involved at every step, no matter which referendum option is chosen. I will work with the clubs and student organizations to ensure that the loss of Old Chancellor Day Hall next year has as little impact as possible on student life and the holding of events.

Je crois fortement que j'ai les connaissances et les connections nécessaires pour pouvoir diriger un exécutif qui peut rendre la Faculté de droit de McGill une place plus ouverte, inclusive, et dynamique.

MATTHEW QUADRINI

The LSA President's role is to represent the interest of students, while ensuring the proper functioning of the LSA. This involves establishing clear objectives and timelines for the LSA executive, as well as clear positions developed through consensus and constructive debate. This will ensure a strong, open and proactive LSA which will be essential for maintaining a vibrant faculty life.

Cette année, en tant que VP-PR, j'ai représenté de manière adroite et professionnelle notre association étudiante auprès de diverses instances de la faculté de droit et de l'université, en plus de convaincre plusieurs cabinets d'avocat de commanditer les événements organisés par l'AÉD. Je suis fier du travail accompli l'an dernier, mais, il reste plusieurs défis que je souhaiterai relever, car j'ai plusieurs idées et projets pour améliorer la qualité de vie des étudiants.

As next year President, I will work with the other members of the LSA executive to:

- Implement the accumulated surplus referendum so as to ensure that students receive benefits by the fall of 2014;
- Modernize the LSA environmental policy;
- Develop an online platform for self-publication of term essays;
- Accept credit cards for certain LSA activities while improving the LSA's financial accountability through the use of new accounting software;
- Improve the LSA App and Website with an event RSVP feature which will be available for both LSA and club events;
- Improve the consultative process by holding office hours in the Atrium and utilizing innovative consultative techniques.

J'ai de grandes ambitions, mais vous ne devriez-vous attendre à rien de moins de la part de votre exécutif. Je vais mettre à profit toute mon expérience en gestion de projet afin de m'assurer que ces objectifs soient atteints et que 2014-2015 soit une année réussie pour l'AÉD.

I am counting on your support!

I'm excited for the challenges and opportunities of the upcoming year, and I hope you are too.

Votez John Simpson pour Président de l'AÉD.



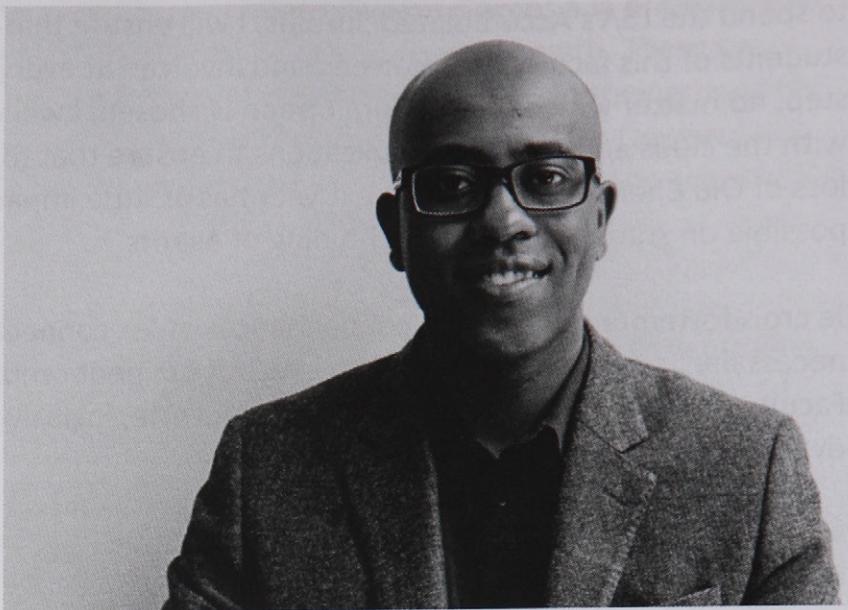
HERSI HUJALEH

I am asking you for your support for the position of LSA President. I believe I have the necessary experience, skills and temperament to lead the LSA effectively. Moreover, I believe my platform, namely a more accessible LSA and greater emphasis on addressing mental health issues, is deserving of your support.

I acquired valuable leadership experience over the past year in leading the Black Law Students' Association, one of the more active student organizations at the faculty. In that capacity, I had the opportunity to develop relationships with the administration, represent our school in the wider community and to oversee a modest-sized budget. I also believe the lessons I acquired in my four-plus years in the work world prior to law school provide me with the professional experience required to succeed as LSA President.

I will work diligently to enhance the accessibility of the LSA to its members. To further this aim, I believe it is important for the LSA Executive to make a greater effort to facilitate interaction with students. As President I promise to attend at least one meeting of every student club (with permission) during the school year to hear your concerns. I will also push to vary the time at which LSA Executive meetings are held in order to give all students the opportunity to sit-in. Lastly, I will work with the Executive to find better ways for the LSA to communicate with students.

Ce n'est pas un secret que la santé mentale est une cause majeure de préoccupation à la faculté. Des progrès importants ont été réalisés ces dernières années mais il faut faire davantage. Je vais faire de la santé mentale ma priorité. Je m'efforcerai d'accroître la sensibilisation et les ressources consacrées à la santé mentale.



VP-INTERNAL - ONGOING EVENTS

RAY GRAFTON

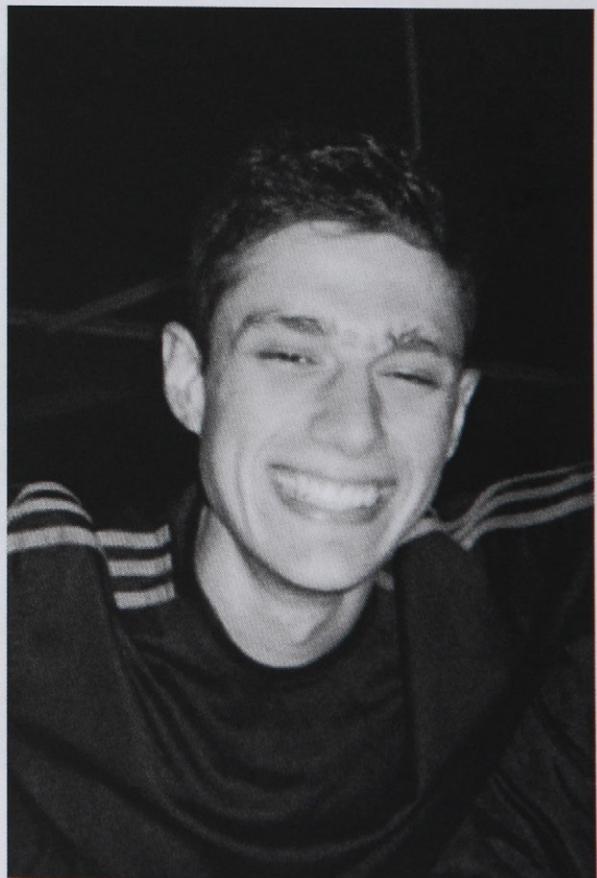
Bonjour, mon nom est Ray Grafton et je me présente pour le poste de VP Interne - Ongoing Events.

The major responsibilities of the position are to ensure that the weekly coffeehouses run smoothly and to plan the orientation week.

On fait face à une situation difficile : avec la construction qui aura lieu pendant l'été et durant la prochaine année scolaire, on n'aura pas de cuisine ni de frigo pour coffeehouse. Il va falloir trouver des solutions innovatrices pour maintenir les standards auxquelles nous nous sommes habitués. Un vrai Winnipegois, j'ai plein d'expériences avec le froid et de la bière.

Another challenge we will have to deal with is the uncertain situation regarding the Welcome Ball. In years past, the Welcome Ball (which is an integral part of orientation week) had been held at the Holiday Inn on Sherbrooke, which is no longer an option. This past year it was held at the OMNI, but the cost associated with this option is prohibitive. As one of the VPs Internal, I am confident that we will be able to find a cost effective solution without compromising on the quality of one of the most important events of the year.

J'ai les qualités et les expériences nécessaires pour bien représenter les intérêts des



étudiants en droit à McGill. Pendant mon bac, j'étais VP et puis Président du club d'entreprenariat à l'Université du Manitoba. Mes responsabilités principales étaient la planification, la coordination et la promotion des évènements; des capacités qui correspondent bien au profil recherché pour ce poste. Ma personnalité dynamique, mon bilinguisme et mon entretien font de moi un candidat idéal pour faire affaire avec les divers clubs et cabinets qui planifient leurs coffeehouses.

Elect me as protector of the coffeehouse, I know how to throw a good party.

MARIA RODRIGUEZ

Salut tout le monde!

Je m'appelle Maria Rodriguez et je veux vous représenter dans l'AED comme votre VP relations internes -ongoing events.

I am an outgoing and social person and in this first year at McGill Law I really enjoyed meeting so many new people with fascinating backgrounds and stories. The Law community proved to be an amazing environment for studying but also for making friends. It was the bond I felt with you as a community that motivated me to run for this position.



The VP internal-ongoing events, is a position that entails organization, commitment and creativity. I can offer you this and much more.

En fait, je suis très responsable et j'aime être engagé dans la vie étudiante. De plus, en considérant les changements que nous aurons dans notre faculté, je veux travailler très fort à fin d'assurer que la prochaine année soit vraiment gratifiante pour tous! Concrètement, je veux travailler pour la création d'un espace commun, remplaçant le Old Chancellor Day Hall; un espace où nous pourrons nous relaxer et socialiser!

I was the VP fundraising of the Model UN club at Dawson College and through this experience I acquired great expertise in organization tools and mechanisms. Moreover, as VP I learned the importance of having good communication within the executive group itself and also with the greater student community. Not only did I enjoy working in a team but I also learned how to best approach teamwork and reach out to students.

Nothing would make me happier than to have the opportunity to give back to the student community and to contribute to make it better. I will save no effort to meet your goals and expectations. Let's make together this upcoming year one that we will remember with great joy!

CHARLES CEELEN-BRASSEUR

Hello to all of you, McGillian population, I am pleased to present my candidacy for VP Internal, Ongoing events next year!

Tout d'abord, bravo, l'année scolaire tire à sa fin et les terrasses reprennent de service sur la rue St-Denis. Vous avez survécu un hiver de plus, il y a matière à célébrer!

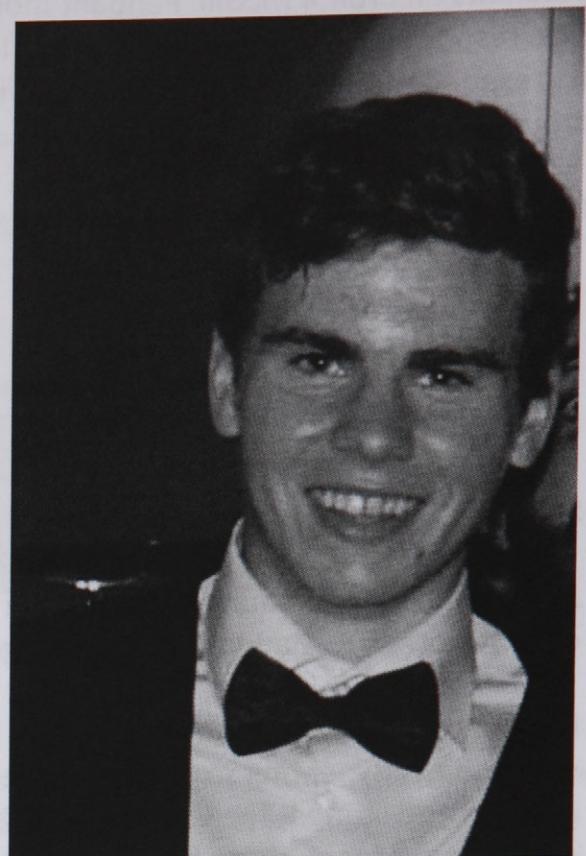
Over the past few years, I've been organizing nightlife events for a young startup, CrowdUp Events, and learned many useful skills that I believe you could benefit from. I also accumulated valuable experience organizing promotional events for local microbreweries. I sincerely hope to be given the opportunity to use this accumulated experience in making next year as memorable as it should be.

Ma mission est simple, faire du Coffee House un lieu de rassemblement où il fera bon de savourer une diversité de bières FROIDES et/ou toutes autres rafraîchissements qui feront de vous des universitaires heureux.

Concrètement, en étant élu, j'ai comme projet d'allonger les heures de certains Coffee House, d'y offrir un plus grand choix de boissons alcoolisées et non-alcoolisées, et de remettre en vos mains le contrôle de la musique qui y sera jouée. Je serai également activement à l'écoute de vos propositions.

Law school sure is a demanding and stressful endeavour. But don't you worry; I am here to make it easier for you. Whatever it takes, we will together find a way to laugh our way out of stress.

Thank you for taking the time to vote, and I hope to see you all next year at Coffee Houses!



VP-INTERNAL - SPECIAL EVENTS

JUSTINE BLAIR

Hello beautiful people of McGill! I am very pleased to be presenting my candidacy for VP internal for 2014-2015.

We haven't chosen the easiest of paths to embark on here at the faculty. However, I have learnt through my first year that at every hard turn, I could always count on the amazing people making up the McGill community. Je crois que les événements spéciaux hors-fac contribuent à renforcer un sentiment d'unicité et d'appartenance qui rend McGill si spécial. C'est pourquoi je me présente à ce poste, car j'adore la faculté, et je tiens à m'investir dans son bonheur et son amélioration.

I am from Cegep, but also spent a year at university before travelling for another year. I believe this gives me a unique understanding of the various backgrounds of the people at McGill. J'ai grandi dans un environnement bilingue, et cette dualité est importante afin de représenter une communauté si diversifiée comme la nôtre. Without wanting to boast, I am a very energetic and creative person, and most importantly, I am approachable. Je veux entendre ce qui trotte dans vos têtes!

Somme toute, je serais ravie d'être choisie afin de représenter un groupe aussi fantastique que le nôtre. En plus des événements qui ont été populaires par le passé, je compte ajouter des événements à plus petite échelle qui viendront rejoindre un plus grand nombre de personnes à la faculté. Matinée de ski de fond sur Mont-Royal, book club (complete with tea and crumpets), événements espagnols (anglais et français, c'est pas assez!), trivia nights... I'm full of ideas and ready to hear yours! I look forward to working with you in making 2014-2015 a memorable one. DARE to BLAIR! Le choix est CLAIR, c'est BLAIR!



JUSTINE BRIEN

Bonjour à tous et à toutes !

Mon nom est Justine Brien, je suis présentement en deuxième année et je me présente au poste de VP-Interne pour l'année 2014-2015.

Premièrement, je suis grandement intéressée par les événements se déroulant à la Faculté, comme en témoigne ma participation à Orientation en tant que Frosh Leader, au Skit Trip, aux Law Games etc. J'ai eu la chance de côtoyer les VP-Internes cette année et je suis convaincue que ce poste correspond à ma personnalité et à la façon à laquelle je souhaite contribuer à la vie facultaire.

Secondly, my experience demonstrates that I have the necessary qualities to fulfill the role of VP-internal. I had the chance to lead the organization of Law School of Rock and Skit Nite this year. Those experiences confirmed that I have the organizational capacities and leadership to ensure that the projects I embark on are successful and appreciated by the members of the Faculty.

As your next VP-Internal, I am committed not only to perpetuating the activities that you have come to love but also to innovating. Montréal est une ville bouillonnante au niveau culturel et je veux mettre de l'avant cette particularité en organisant des sorties au théâtre, des rencontres avec des artistes etc. Pour les sportifs soyez sans crainte, je souhaite également promouvoir la pratique d'activités physiques. Par exemple, je veux raviver le club de course et aussi prévoir une journée hivernale dans un parc national. De plus, je désire organiser un événement de cuisine collective avec un chef. Il m'importe aussi de préparer des activités à caractère social, qui permettent de s'amuser tout en redonnant à la communauté.

Je suis motivée, compétente et créative. Je suis ouverte à toutes suggestions et je suis prête à vous accompagner dans la réalisation de toute activité qui vise à enrichir la vie facultaire. N'hésitez pas à me contacter !



VP-EXTERNAL

VINCENT PIERRE-FULLERTON

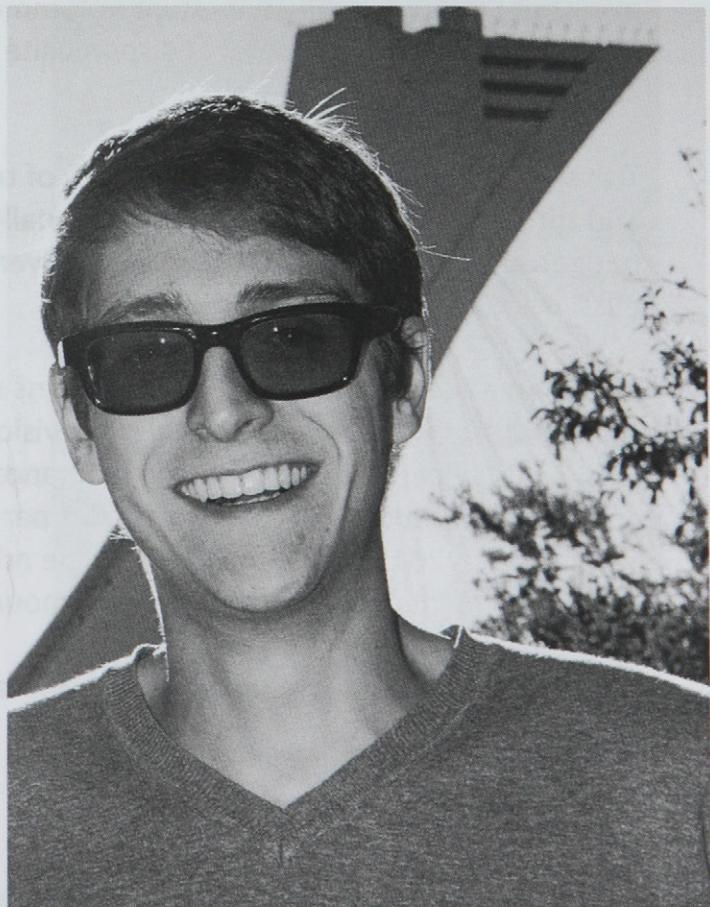
This past year, thanks to your confidence, I had the opportunity to represent you both at Faculty and LSA Council. This experience allowed me to learn tremendously about the dynamics of our Faculty as well as about McGill in general.

Aujourd'hui, je vous demande de me faire confiance une seconde fois pour vous représenter en tant que VP-Externe sur les conseils de l'AÉUM (SSMU), de la CADED (Facultés de droit civil) et, encore une fois, de l'AÉD (LSA).

As VP-External, I will be in charge of the relationships our faculty maintains with the outside. As much as we love our law school community, my main commitment will be to provide opportunities to open our faculty. Here is a short list of the key points I will work towards:

Ouverture envers McGill

- I will provide opportunities for clubs of our faculty to exchange with similar clubs of McGill at large, allowing for joint events and more;
- Je vous tiendrai au courant d'événements ayant lieu partout à McGill, notamment par des publications dans le Quid et des ListServ, pour que vous puissiez profiter des opportunités existantes.



Openness to the legal community and more

- Cette année, en tant que délégué de l'AÉD, j'ai participé au processus de création d'une association des étudiants en droits pan-canadienne. I will make sure that this new organization becomes a potent means of promoting cooperation between law schools and of protecting law students' interests.
- Je vais renforcer les relations entre les facultés de droit civil, en particulier l'UdeM et l'UQAM, en favorisant la tenue d'activités communes et d'occasions de réseautage.
- When useful, I will act as a liaison between our faculty's student body and the community to foster fruitful relationships and cooperation opportunities.

Vote V-P for VP-External!

VP-FINANCE

JEFF LI

Né à Montréal, j'ai suivi une formation en sciences au Collège Jean-de-Brébeuf avant d'arriver ici. Étant souvent impliqué dans la vie étudiante, j'ai exercé des rôles tant nombreux que divers.

Last year, I had the great honour to be the treasurer (equivalent of VP-Finance) of the general student association of my CEGEP (AGEB) which represented over 1600 students, with a budget of almost \$80000. I was able to pass from a \$2000 deficit budget of the outgoing treasurer to a \$600 surplus the following year, which was invested in infrastructure.

Diverses raisons expliquent cette réussite, mais je pense avoir fait un bon travail, en mettant notamment l'accent sur la transparence, la minutie et la disponibilité que je souhaite continuer à McGill.



Transparency: Continue toward the path of transparency traced by the past VP-Finance with activities like budget talks, mid-term and throughout the year reports. Additionally, I propose a bilingual explicative guide to help students better understand the LSA's budget. Je propose aussi d'afficher les subventions versées aux clubs par l'AÉD afin que les intérêts promus par l'exécutif soit aussi ceux des étudiant-e-s.

Attention to detail: Being VP-Finance means undertaking prudent estimates of income and expenses made by the LSA and other clubs and services. Closer financial supervision of costly events such as the Law Games or the Welcome Bal are also necessary. C'est aussi se permettre une marge de manœuvre pour des imprévus, souvent de faibles coûts, mais qui affectent grandement la qualité de vie étudiante: les micro-ondes par exemple.

L'année 2014-2015 risque de présenter de nouveaux défis logistiques et matériels importants pour l'AÉD and so availability to listen to students' problems will be paramount.

Finally, the LSA should not only be economically viable, but also sustainable, and therefore I propose a progressively carbon-neutral LSA.

Jeff pour VP-Finance, c'est rentable!

ALEXANDER ROBINSON

Hi, my name is Alex Robinson. I am in my second year and it would be an honour to serve the student body as the LSA's next VP Finance. I would make an excellent candidate owing to my undergraduate studies and extensive work experience. Prior to attending McGill Law School I pursued an undergraduate degree in finance at the John Molson School of Business. While studying at JMSB, I had the opportunity to work as a financial analyst at both Cirque du Soleil and Fidelity Investments. As VP Finance, my first promise is to improve the transparency of the LSA's financials by reducing the amount of time required to generate statements. We are currently unable to monitor the budget on a continuous basis. By improving our infrastructure, we can significantly reduce the amount of free floating capital and thus invest it towards the student body. These additional funds will not only be helpful in supporting clubs in the coming year, but also to mitigate risks associated with the closing of OCDH. My second promise is to work closely with special events committees in order to ascertain that they stay within their forecasted budgets. I am willing to lend my considerable business experience in assisting these organizations generate revenue and control costs. These committees have a track record of excellence and I want them to have the continued freedom to plan their operations. Finally, my last promise is to carry out the duties of my office to their full extent. As a member of such an esteemed group of people, I would be honoured to serve you. Whether the student body requires me to extend my office hours or to revise the budget, I want to be there for you. Together, we can make 2014-2015 one of the Faculty's best.



VP-ADMINISTRATION

ANNE-SOPHIE VILLENEUVE

Bonjour!

Ça a été un grand plaisir de vous représenter cette année en tant que VP Administration au sein de l'AED, et c'est pourquoi je souhaite répéter l'expérience pour l'an prochain! Now that I've overcome the learning curve of being VP Admin, I believe that I could bring a more valuable contribution to the LSA and to students during a second mandate.

For instance, I would be glad to support new Exec members in their roles and to facilitate the transition between the outgoing and incoming Executives. More specifically in the context of my role as VP Admin, I am committed to finding the most efficient ways to communicate with students and keep them informed of what goes on at the Faculty. C'est pourquoi je voudrais travailler avec le reste de l'Exécutif pour continuer à développer l'application mobile de l'AED de manière à ce qu'elle soit utile et intéressante pour les étudiants. Je voudrais aussi améliorer le site web de l'AED pour qu'il soit plus convivial et interactif. Cette année, la mission première que s'était donnée l'Exécutif était de favoriser la transparence et une communication ouverte avec les étudiants, et c'est un travail que je souhaite poursuivre au sein du nouvel Exécutif.

I strongly believe that cooperation between students and participation to Faculty life are essential components of a successful law school experience. As a member of the LSA Executive, I would want to ensure that you have access to all the structures and support you need to succeed, and also that you have plenty of occasions to blow off steam and have fun with your classmates!

J'espère avoir votre confiance et votre soutien pour vous représenter de nouveau au sein de l'AED. I look forward to another exciting year with all of you!



GREG ELDER

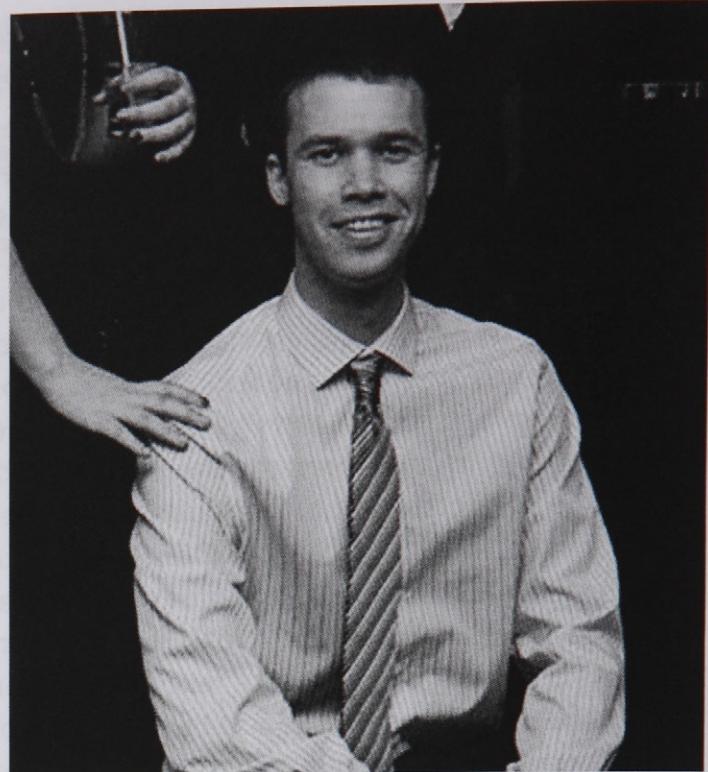
Bonjour tout le monde! Je m'appelle Greg Elder, et je me présente pour le poste de VP-Académique pour la prochaine année.

Over the past year, I have been fortunate to work as 1L Co-President, and serve on the LSA Council. Much of our discussion at Council has surrounded curricular reform and the Faculty's language policies – two areas which I am interested in working in next year.

Un des rôles du VP-Académique est de représenter les étudiantes et étudiants en droit au Conseil de la faculté et sur différents comités académiques. Si je suis élu, je propose de mieux informer les étudiantes et étudiants et de les impliquer davantage quant aux développements académiques à la faculté. Plus particulièrement, j'aimerais écrire une rubrique régulière dans le Quid pour informer les étudiantes et étudiants des activités des différents comités. De plus, à l'aide de sondages réguliers, je désire obtenir l'avis du corps étudiant sur diverses questions académiques.

As 1L Co-President, I also had the opportunity to start a language buddy program with the goal of better integrating the Anglophone and Francophone communities within the Faculty. As VP-Academic, I would like to integrate this concept into the existing Law Partners program. Ideally, Law Partners events would serve both as a way to aid incoming students, and to facilitate exchange between these two groups.

Thank for voting, and I hope to have the opportunity to work for students next year!

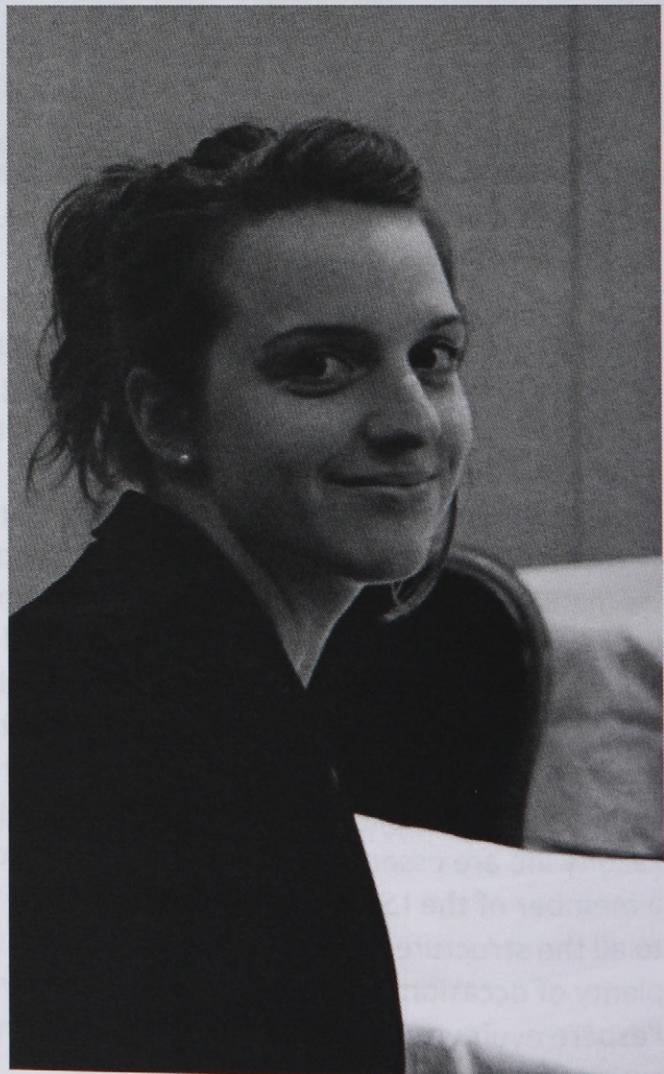


LÉA PELLETIER MARCOTTE

Le poste de VP académique est non seulement le représentant des étudiantes et étudiants au sein de l'AED sur les questions touchant le programme auquel ils se sont inscrits, c'est également leur représentant auprès des différentes instances facultaires. J'estime avoir les aptitudes nécessaires afin de répondre aux exigences de ce poste avec brio.

Non seulement ai-je fait partie du conseil exécutif de l'Association générale des étudiants du Cégep André-Grasset (AGECAG) ainsi que de l'Association des programmes bidisciplinaires en science politique à l'UQAM (ABICEP), je fus également enseignante au collégial et à l'université. Ces expériences étudiantes et professionnelles me permettront d'avoir une présence active, tant sur le conseil de l'AED que sur les différents comités et conseils de la Faculté qui touchent les enjeux pédagogiques et académiques. La question de la réforme du curriculum sera certainement l'un des gros mandats avec lesquels j'aurai à jongler, et j'entends bien permettre le plus possible l'intégration de vos idées et de vos préoccupations à ce niveau. La défense des cours en français et leur variété sera notamment l'une de mes priorités.

Je m'engage à défendre le processus démocratique au sein de l'AED, et valoriser le rôle de l'Assemblée générale. Depuis deux ans, je vois le pouvoir des voix des étudiants et étudiantes être restreint, et j'aimerais en promouvoir la valeur au sein de toutes les instances où je siégerai. Transparence, ouverture et promotion de la diversité seront des éléments-clés de mon mandat.



I am someone who's accessible, friendly and energetic. I am conscious of the importance of not only my role, but the LSA's in making this Law School experience worthwhile and fun. Please feel free to ask me any questions you might have about my experience, the role of VP Academic, the Law partners program, the curricular reform, or just life in general!

VP-CLUBS

GABRIELLE TREMBLAY

Je m'appelle Gabrielle Tremblay et je me présente comme VP Clubs. Je finis actuellement ma première année à McGill et je suis très motivée à m'impliquer davantage au sein de la faculté. Arrivée directement du cégep, je me démarque par mon dynamisme, mon sens de l'organisation et mon entregent. Despite my young age, I believe my past experiences will help me in fulfilling this position. Amongst other things, I have been a delegate for Brébeuf's Model UN club for two years as well as having won the Barreau intercollegiate debate competition and being pool manager in TMR. I will definitely be able to communicate your needs and opinions to the rest of the LSA and the faculty staff, while not being afraid of having to manage a lot of things at once. Je pense que les comités étudiants sont une des particularités les plus riches de notre faculté de par leur diversité, leur originalité et le dévouement que les étudiants leur apportent. Ils constituent un complément essentiel à la vie académique et permettent à chacun de s'exprimer et d'exploiter ses talents connexes. While being very open-minded and eager to hear your new club ideas, I believe one of the challenges student life will face is the growing number of concurring events. In my opinion, it is a shame that sometimes a too great number of activities going on at once lead to poor attendance. Si je suis élue, je prioriserai la communication entre les différents clubs étudiants et les groupes professoraux pour que vos activités et événements rayonnent le plus possible. Une des mes priorités serait également d'aider à la coordination d'activités parrainées par plusieurs clubs ou organisations. De l'écoute, de l'énergie et une organisation hors pairs : voilà en quelques mots pourquoi je vous encourage à supporter ma candidature!



VP-PUBLIC RELATIONS

JULIA BLAIS-QUINTAL

Bonjour!

I'd like to represent you as VP Public Relations. As a student representative at Faculty Council this year, I had the chance to learn a lot about the way this Faculty operates. En tant que membre du LSA Council, je peux dire que je suis bien au courant des enjeux qui concernent l'exécutif et des différents rôles que chacun occupe.

J'aimerais occuper le poste de VP PR, car je crois avoir toutes les qualités requises pour remplir ses fonctions. Je n'aurais aucun problème à vendre notre faculté auprès des firmes, parce que j'en suis très fière. J'estime que ma rigueur et mon professionnalisme dans les communications sauront faire de moi une bonne représentante auprès de nos sponsors.



I am very well aware of the issues that we are facing with regards to the changes that the law field is going through. I believe that we need to rethink our sponsorship packages to put more emphasis on opportunities for students to meet with lawyers.

J'espère avoir la chance de représenter vos intérêts l'an prochain!

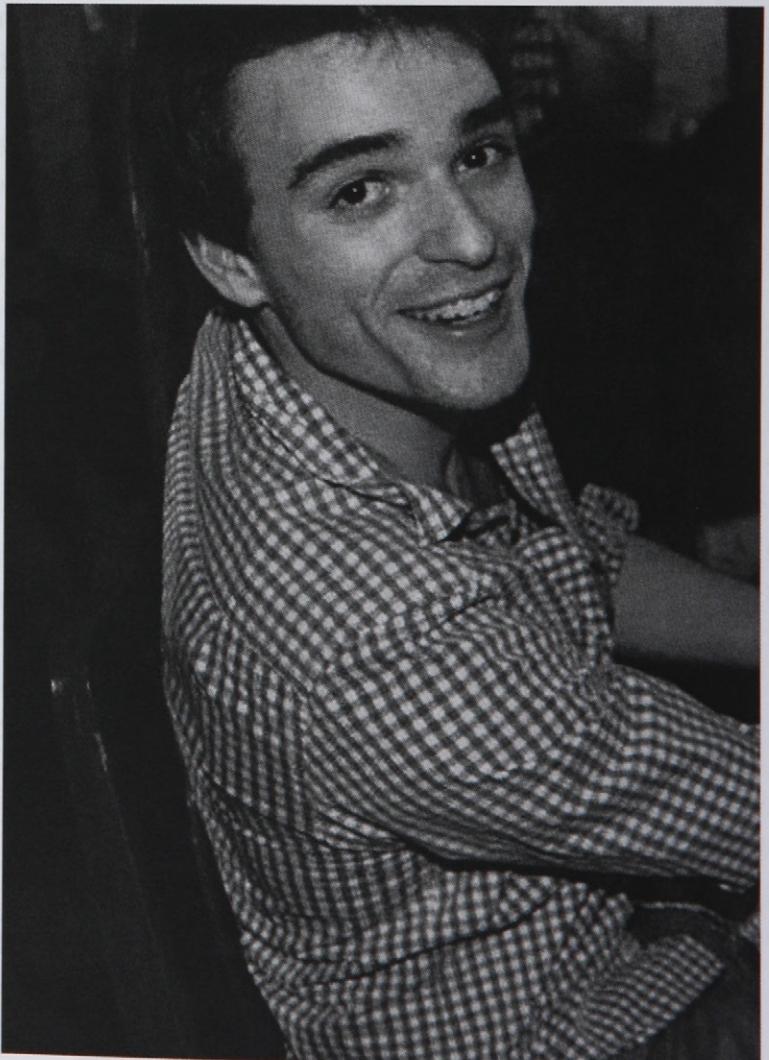
DAVID McLEOD

My name is David McLeod and I'd like to be your VP-PR for the 2014-2015 academic year. This year, I've represented 1L as the first-year representative on the SAO Advisory Board, where I related students' academic concerns—be it course load, scheduling, exams, review sessions, registration, etc. As VP-PR, I would be acting as liaison between sponsors (mostly law firms) and the Faculty. I'd be soliciting funding, presenting sponsorship packages to firms, and organizing and promoting events like sponsored coffeehouses. I'd also be working with the CDO to help organize career development events. A lot of these events involve firms and other sponsors wanting to interact with you, so I would try to ensure that all sponsors' events are scheduled in ways that allow the maximum number of students to participate and benefit from them—minimizing direct scheduling conflicts as well as their interference with academics and other extra-curriculars.

I'm an organized and dedicated guy, I work well with people, and I think I would serve students effectively as VP-PR of the LSA. I'm approachable, too—if you had any ideas or concerns, any types of events you'd like to see happen, I would be most open to them as VP-PR.

Ian Clarke

Dear 3Ls and 4Ls,



VALEDICTORIAN

IAN CLARKE

Dear 3Ls and 4Ls,

I was fortunate enough to have met many of you during our time at the Faculty. We've had some good times, some bad times, and some amazing times over the past 3 to 4 years. Whether it was over beers, in the library, on an intramural team, volunteering for a club, or during LSA office hours, I've shared many great memories with you, for which I am thankful.

C'est avec ce sentiment de gratitude que je présente ma candidature pour Valedictorian. Bien que nous puissions jaser de nos souvenirs à la Faculté de temps en temps, la Convocation est notre dernière occasion pour réfléchir collectivement sur les années formatrices passées à Chancellor Day Hall. Je crois que ma participation à la Faculté et mes relations avec vous me permettent de prononcer un discours d'adieu de la classe de diplômés digne de ce voyage qui nous a amené ici aujourd'hui.

If chosen as Valedictorian, I promise a bilingual speech that will be both backwards and forward looking, celebrating the incredible adventure we forged together and the many, many more in store for us all. It's an honour to be able to call you my colleagues, and no matter what I look forward to seeing you all on May 28th.

All the best,

Ian



MICHELLE LAMARRE-LEROUX

Bonjour!

Le choix d'un Valedictorian se base d'abord et avant tout sur les liens que vous avez pu tisser avec les candidats durant vos années ici. J'espère avoir été assez active dans la vie académique et étudiante de la Faculté pour que vous m'accordiez l'honneur de mettre en valeur ces liens que nous avons tissés, de près ou de loin, en partageant les dernières années. Je souhaite ponctuer votre graduation d'une touche d'humour et de nostalgie pas trop clichée pour souligner les points marquants de notre cohorte 2014. Ayant été VP-Interne du LSA pendant l'année tumultueuse de 2011-2012, ayant participé aux Law Games, ayant été sur le Student Well-Being Committee et ayant pris part de façon générale à de nombreux événements et initiatives à la faculté, je compte bien utiliser ce bassin d'histoires, complétées par les vôtres, pour que vous vous reconnaissiez dans mes propos.

But above what I've done during my time here, it's about what we shared. It's about how you think my voice will be representative of your time here too! Coming from cegep probably gave me a slightly different perspective, but I think it will bring a refreshing view of what it is to be at this Law Faculty. And of course, I will honor McGill's bilingualism. Dear fellow 3L and 4L, after meeting you squeezed in the moot court in 2010 or 2011, I can't wait to share graduation with you, squeezed under the tent on lower field!

Wayne Burke



WAYNE BURKE

Hello everyone!

We are very fortunate this year to have seven great candidates putting themselves forward for the responsibility of putting words to some of the shared emotions of our graduation day. In my opinion we can not go wrong since each candidate will undoubtedly deliver a great speech.

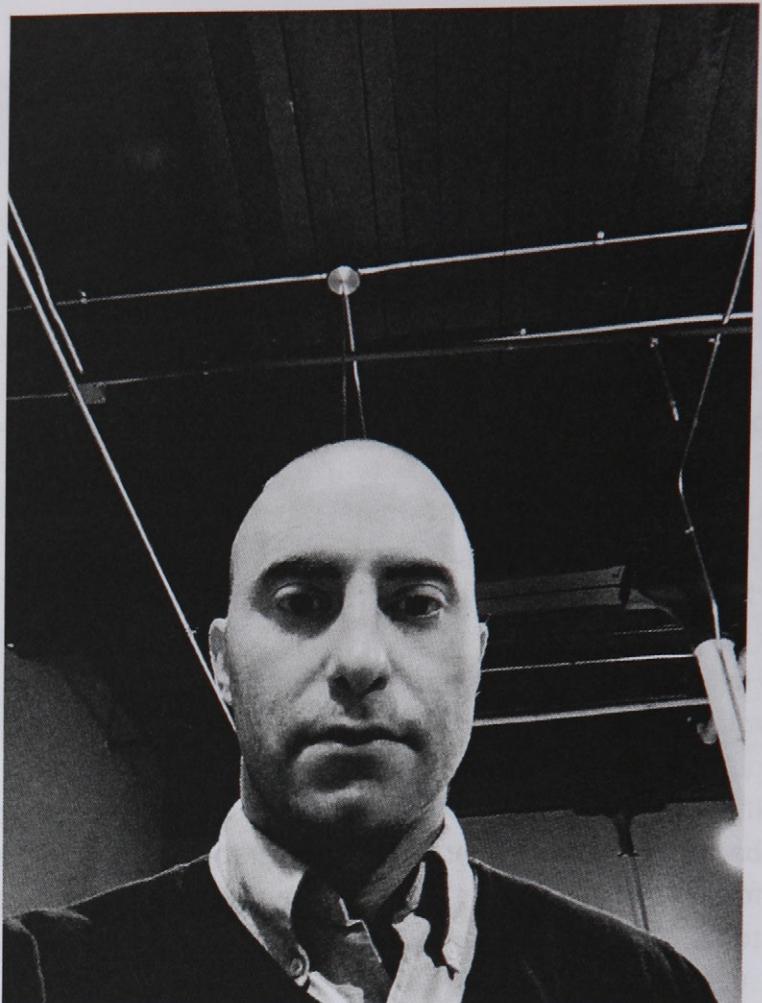
My reasons for running:

1- I would consider it a great honour to be chosen for this responsibility and my family and I would cherish it for many years to come.

2- For a number of reasons, I believe I can deliver a great speech on our graduation day that will be appreciated by many and hopefully all in attendance. Why? Firstly, I have had the good fortune to meet and spend time with so many of you and I believe that because of the diversity of my interactions with our class I can deliver a balanced address that will be appreciated by all. I also have significant experience with public speaking.

Ultimately, as mentioned above, I believe we can do no wrong in choosing who will deliver this address. I wish you all the best, thank you sincerely for considering me for this responsibility and honour.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon and congratulations on your graduation!
Thanks,
Wayne Burke



GABRIELLA ROZANKOVIC

Je ne crois pas que ce genre de candidature soit propice à être plaidée. J'espère au mieux vous persuader de mon désir sincère de me saisir de la délicate tâche de raconter notre cohorte.

J'aime raconter des histoires. Ceux qui me côtoient peuvent en témoigner - parfois à leurs dépends! (Outre le besoin de mettre à profit ces cours de création littéraire qui m'auront retenue en ces murs un semestre trop longtemps,) je me présente surtout parce que j'ai envie de raconter la nôtre.

This story is one of community. From our shared efforts to our most heated arguments, they all demonstrate how healthy and alive our community is.

This story is one of success. It is so humbling to share a mosaïque with such inspiring peers, who've managed to score an SCC clerkship or to raise a child while finishing their degree.

Grandmothers are always endeared by my corky humour. If you were planning on bringing yours, you might want to consider putting an X next to this name. Ça fait 4 ans qu'on s'écoute parler, je vous promets de couper ça court. Enfin, juste à point.



MARIE-LAURE TAPP

Bonjour,

Je me présente comme *Valedictorian* par attachement. Attachement envers la Faculté et envers vous qui faites partie de cette Faculté. I have 300 words. It's like trying to write a love letter in a rational way... quite a challenge. Je m'essaie!

Je me suis impliquée auprès de nombreuses organisations à la Faculté, par exemple ASF, les Transsynphonics, le *Human Rights Working Group*. Puis ce fut la *LICM* pendant 1 an, le Comité de l'Orientation, du bénévolat pour divers événements, le *Working Group on Teaching and Learning Reform*, le Comité sur les langues officielles pendant 1 an et demi, et j'en passe.

So, I was involved at the Faculty. But what about you as a cohort? Well, be it when freezing outside on a cold autumn day during the Malpractice Cup, when working on my moot or at the MJLH, during emotional political debates, around a drink, or in the context of one of the projects named above, I have gotten to know many of you and what matters to you. Nos études de droit furent ardues mais aussi extraordinaires en raison du temps passé les uns avec les autres, dans nos cours comme à l'extérieur. Par la diversité de mon implication et mon ouverture d'esprit, je crois avoir été capable de passer outre plusieurs frontières de "groupes" et d'opinions afin de m'enrichir auprès de vous tous. I thus humbly ask for your trust in representing this diversity of experiences and opinions in my speech.

A friend told me two years ago to "take time for myself" as she noticed I looked a "little" tired. I'm not sure I was ever able to. I could never bring myself to say no to an opportunity that would allow me to work with and/or for you. My time at the Faculty has never been about myself. And my role as a Valedictorian would not be either.

Bonne chance à tous!





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